

Incorporating Citations

When referring to others' research and ideas, select words to accurately represent the writer's ideas and intentions. These words range in strength from tentative, through natural to strong.

Examples

Smith (2025) **reasons** that communication skills are essential to building effective nurse-patient relationships.

In her presentation, although Smith (2025) **reiterated** her belief that communication skills are essential ..., she **added** that attitude towards patients also affects ...

In her presentation, Smith (2025) **challenged** the claim that communication skills were the only ingredient necessary for building ...

Jones (2025) **concurs that** communication skills are essential to building ...

In his study on building effective nurse-student relationships, Jones (2025) **endorses** the idea that communication skills are essential ...

Nevertheless, Jones (2025) **highlights** the value of communications skills as being essential to building ... while **emphasising** the need for ...

Words you could use

The following lists are classified according to strength.

- Do not feel bound by this classification; rather, choose the most appropriate word for the context
- The list has been given in the present tense; you may need to change the tense to the past:

- use the present tense for facts and current evidence that have not changed
- use the past tense when the situation now may have changed

Tentative: used when the ideas are speculative, not absolutely certain

assume	identify	maintain	propose	speculate
claim	imply	moot	put forward	suggest
develop	indicate	ponder	question	suppose
deliberate	inquire	posit	reason	theorise
hypothesise	intimate	postulate	recommend	take into consideration

Neutral: used to present the facts

allege	consider	examine	mention	put forward
analyse	contrast	expand	note	reflect
categorise	define	explain	observe	report
comment	describe	find	outline	state
compare	discuss	identify	point out	study
conclude	echo	inform	present	theorise

Strong: used to make a strong argument, either positive or negative

Positive			Negative	
add	confirm	point out	argue	dismiss
affirm	contend	prove	cast doubt	disprove
agree	contribute	reason	challenge	negate
assert	determine	reveal	contradict	oppose
believe	emphasise	show	counter	rebuff
claim	endorse	stress	criticise	refute
clarify	highlight	support	deny	reject
concur	maintain	urge	disagree	warn

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