Research Notes: Part 3

Indirect Citations vs. Direct Citations

- **Indirect**—Taking the idea of an author's quote and putting it into your own words while still giving credit to the author.

- Are quotation marks used? NO
- Is an in-text citation used? YES

- *Example*

- Mark Twain said that it was better to keep one's mouth shut and look ignorant than to open it and prove that you are (43).

- **Direct**—Using an author's exact pattern of words, which are surrounded with quotation marks.

- Are quotation marks used? YES
- Is an in-text citation used? YES

- *Example*

- Mark Twain said, "It's better to keep your mouth shut and appear stupid than to open it and remove all doubt" (43).

WHEN to Use Indirect Citations

- 1. To summarize information: give a condensed version of the info
- 2. To paraphrase information: rephrasing the information in your own words
- 3. To communicate facts or statistics

WHEN to Use Direct Citations

- 1. To retain the meaning and authenticity of the original source
- 2. To lend support to a literary analysis
- 3. To capture *exactly* the language that supports your point because it is unusual, well-crafted, striking, shocking, or memorable

- **Read the attached webpage and then list examples of indirect and direct citations.**

- **HINTS: What is the golden rule of in-text citations? Is there an author? In case you need to know, how do you "present" the title of a webpage?**