

Why Cite Your Sources: Citing your sources, whether in a platform or interpretive speech, is important for several reasons.

1. It gives proper credit to the authors of the words or ideas that you incorporated into your speech.
2. It gives credibility (ethos) to you as a speech writer who did your due diligence in researching your speech. It also allows you to “borrow” the credibility of the sources you use.
3. It allows those who hear your speech to identify your sources, in order to learn more about the ideas that you include in your speech.
4. Citing your sources consistently and accurately helps you avoid committing plagiarism in your speech writing.

Citations are necessary to show the source of your material in both platforms and interpretations. Use citations when you directly quote, paraphrase, or summarize information from any source.

Platform Presentation Rule #1: *All direct quotations and primary sources must be cited verbally within the body of the speech. Use of another person’s words or ideas without crediting them is plagiarism and strictly forbidden.*

Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation Preparation Rule #6: *The competitor may quote material external to the piece in the introduction only and must cite the source verbally.*

Interpretation Presentation Rule #1: *The competitors must identify the title(s) and author(s) near the beginning of the piece. the competitor will receive a one (1) rank penalty for failure to cite the source(s).*

How to Cite in Your Script: If you directly quote, paraphrase, or summarize information from any source, you must both:

1. **Cite your source verbally for your audience.**
 - a. **Author**
 - Example: A research study by *Alexander Bartik and colleagues* found that “...”
 - b. **Title of Work**
 - Example: In a report titled “*Education During Covid 19 and Beyond*”, the UN predicts ...
 - c. **Title of Source of Work**
 - Example: Several studies, including this one done by *the National Center for Research on Education Access and Choice* found that “...”
 - d. **Bible Sources (Quoted)** - When using the Bible as a source either in a platform or an interp, be sure to name the version you are using and the chapter(s) and verse(s) if applicable.
 - Example: According to John 3:16 in the King James Bible, “...”
 - e. **Bible Sources (Adapted)** - When a story from the Bible is adapted for an Open Interp, the title of the book in the Bible being interpreted must be included. You must also indicate that you are adapting the story in your own words.
 - Example: “This is the story of Jonah, adapted by (your name).”
 - Example: “This is the story of David and Goliath, from I Samuel, adapted by (your name).”

2. **Cite your source parenthetically** in your script to easily connect it to the source entry on your Citation Page.
 - a. If possible, ***include the author's name and the page number***.
 - Example: A research study by Alexander Bartik and colleagues found that “...” (Bartik, et al, 37).
 - Example: The Washington Post quoted a study showing ... (Wan).
 - Example: Several studies, including this one done by the National Center for Research on Education Access and Choice found that “...” (Camera).
 - b. ***If no author is given, use the title of the work***.
 - Example: A study by FAIR Health investigated ... (FAIR Health, 2).
 - c. ***Scriptural sources*** should include the name of the version followed by the book, chapter, and verse (if applicable).
 - Example: According to John 3:16 in the King James Bible, “....” (*King James Bible*, John 3:16).

How to Cite in Your Citation Page: You must provide an alphabetized list of all the sources you have used in your speech. You may use any citation style (APA, MLA, etc.) for this list. [See Purdue Online Writing Lab (owl.english.purdue.edu) for detailed explanations of how to create this list based on the style you choose.] Be sure that the parenthetical citation in your script matches with the first entry for each source.

- Example:

Script:

A research study by Alexander Bartik and colleagues found that “...” (Bartik, et al, 37)

Citation Page:

Bartik, Alexander et al. “The Impact of COVID-19 on Small Business Outcomes and Expectations.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, vol. 117, no. 30, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2006991117>.

How to Cite Images: For speeches with visual aids, image and graphic citations should be included as a second “Image Citations” section on your citation page. They do not need to be cited in-text or verbally in the script.

What NOT to Do:

- Leave citations out. This violates Stoa’s Plagiarism policy and will result in disqualification.
- Cite all your sources together. This does not allow your audience to know from whom you got specific information.
- Avoid asking for help. If you are unsure if you are citing your sources correctly, ask a parent, coach, or even a Speech Committee member.