

Example Notes on Ogallala Aquifer - Forms A & B

This document shows how a student took notes on the first two sources she found:

1. a book by John Opie entitled *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*, and
2. an online article by Jack Lewis entitled "The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea."

The student found 4 pieces of useful information in each source, and she decided that 5 pieces of information should go into the "Background of the Problem" section of her report, and 3 pieces of useful information should go into the "Nature & Extent of the Problem (or Current Importance)" section of her report.

Below you can see two separate examples of how the student took notes:

- 1) Form A (pg.1-4) – recording every piece of useful information below its source, and
- 2) Form B (pg.5-11) – recording each piece of useful information in the section of the outline where it belongs.

Name: **Allison DeJong**

Topic: **The Ogallala: Preserving the Great American Desert**

FORM A - Note-Taking Template for Research Paper

Source 1

Source Citation (Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.):

Opie, John. Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.

<p>1A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source) (Copy and paste a <u>direct quotation</u> from the source here):</p>	<p>1B) Significance/Importance How will you <u>use</u> this information, and why is it <u>significant</u> to you? (Does it help answer any research question(s)? Will it fit in any of the three main sections of your paper or under a specific subject heading?): <i>Definition and description/statistic</i></p> <p>Use for Part 1 - Background of the Problem</p>	<p>1C) Paraphrase or Summary (Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.): <i>The Ogallala Aquifer is an underground reservoir that covers 174,00 square miles (Opie 29-35).</i></p>
<p>2A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):</p>	<p>2B) Significance/Importance: <i>Origins of the aquifer</i></p> <p>Use for Part 1 - Background of the Problem</p>	<p>2C) Paraphrase or Summary: <i>The Ogallala formed over millions of years as glaciers melted, carrying water, silt, and rocks down to the Great Plains (Opie 29-35).</i></p>

<p>3A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):</p>	<p>3B) Significance/Importance: Origins of the aquifer</p> <p>Use for Part 1 - Background of the Problem</p>	<p>3C) Paraphrase or Summary: Over time, dirt, clay, and rocks accumulated above the waters, which are now about 300 feet beneath the depths of the surface (Opie 29-35)</p>
<p>4A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source): “The center pivot is a 1300-foot-long pipe that is held eight feet off the ground by a row of seven or more towers on large wheels. Sprinklers are attached at regular intervals along the pipe, pointing up or down. One end of the pipe is set in the middle of a 160-acre quarter section around which the pipe and the wheeled towers circulate” (Opie 146).</p>	<p>4B) Significance/Importance: Definition of center-pivot irrigation, which is one apparent cause of the problem</p> <p>Use for Part 2 - the Nature & Extent of the Problem</p>	<p>4C) Paraphrase or Summary:</p>
<p>5A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):</p>	<p>5B) Significance/Importance:</p>	<p>5C) Paraphrase or Summary:</p>

Source 2

<p>Source Citation (<u>Copy and paste the MLA citation</u> from SIRS or Gale, or <u>create a proper MLA citation yourself</u> by gathering the citation information from the source.): Lewis, Jack. “The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea.” <i>EPA Journal</i> 16.6 (Nov./Dec. 1990): 42. MasterFILE Premier. <i>EBSCOhost</i>. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.</p>		
<p>1A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source) (Copy and paste a <u>direct quotation</u> from the source here):</p> <p>See paraphrase.</p>	<p>1B) Significance/Importance How will you <u>use</u> this information, and why is it <u>significant</u> to you? (Does it help answer any research question(s)? Will it fit in any of the three main sections of your paper or under a specific subject heading?): Statistic that shows the size of the Ogallala</p> <p>Use for Part 1 - Background of the Problem</p>	<p>1C) Paraphrase or Summary (Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author’s exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.): The Ogallala can hold enough water to fill Lake Huron plus one-fifth of Lake Ontario (Lewis).</p>
<p>2A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source): “If pumped out over the United States, the High Plains aquifer would cover all 50 states with one and one-half feet of water” (Lewis).</p>	<p>2B) Significance/Importance: Another statistic that shows the size of the aquifer</p> <p>Use for Part 1 - Background of the Problem</p>	<p>2C) Paraphrase or Summary:</p>

3A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source): See paraphrase.	3B) Significance/Importance: Key statistic that shows the depletion of the aquifer Use for Part 2 - the Nature & Extent of the Problem	3C) Paraphrase or Summary: Water in the Ogallala has been reduced by 11% since 1930 (Lewis).
4A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source): See paraphrase.	4B) Significance/Importance: Key statistic that shows the depletion of the aquifer Use for Part 2 - the Nature & Extent of the Problem	4C) Paraphrase or Summary: The use of center-pivot irrigation leads to 600-800% higher crop production per acre than traditional than dry-land farming (Lewis).
5A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	5B) Significance/Importance:	5C) Paraphrase or Summary:

Source 3

Source Citation (<u>Copy and paste the MLA citation</u> from SIRS or Gale, or <u>create a proper MLA citation yourself</u> by gathering the citation information from the source.):		
1A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source) (Copy and paste a <u>direct quotation</u> from the source here):	1B) Significance/Importance How will you <u>use</u> this information, and why is it <u>significant</u> to you? (Does it help answer any research question(s) ? Will it fit in any of the three main sections of your paper or under a specific subject heading ?):	1C) Paraphrase or Summary (Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.):
2A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	2B) Significance/Importance:	2C) Paraphrase or Summary:
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5A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	5B) Significance/Importance:	5C) Paraphrase or Summary:

Source 4

Source Citation (<u>Copy and paste the MLA citation</u> from SIRS or Gale, or <u>create a proper MLA citation yourself</u> by gathering the citation information from the source.):		
1A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source) (Copy and paste a <u>direct quotation</u> from the source here):	1B) Significance/Importance How will you <u>use</u> this information, and why is it <u>significant</u> to you? (Does it help answer any research question(s) ? Will it fit in any of the three main sections of your paper or under a specific subject heading ?):	1C) Paraphrase or Summary (Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.):
2A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	2B) Significance/Importance:	2C) Paraphrase or Summary:
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5A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	5B) Significance/Importance:	5C) Paraphrase or Summary:

Source 5

Source Citation (<u>Copy and paste the MLA citation</u> from SIRS or Gale, or <u>create a proper MLA citation yourself</u> by gathering the citation information from the source.):		
1A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source) (Copy and paste a <u>direct quotation</u> from the source here):	1B) Significance/Importance How will you <u>use</u> this information, and why is it <u>significant</u> to you? (Does it help answer any research question(s) ? Will it fit in any of the three main sections of your paper or under a specific subject heading ?):	1C) Paraphrase or Summary (Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.):
2A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	2B) Significance/Importance:	2C) Paraphrase or Summary:
3A) Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source):	3B) Significance/Importance:	3C) Paraphrase or Summary:

Name: Allison DeJong

Topic: The Ogallala: Preserving the Great American Desert

FORM B - Outline Template for *Note-Taking*

Part I - Template for Organizing Your Information & Ideas into an Outline

1. Background of the Problem

This section gives your reader the important background information required to understand your topic. You should include in this section key information about (1) **the origins, beginnings, history, or causes** of the development, trend, issue, movement, achievement, controversy, problem, or source of conflict (i.e., important history or how it got started); as well as (2) **any key terms and definitions** that your readers need to understand about the topic.

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Opie, John. *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

See [paraphrase below](#).

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

The Ogallala Aquifer is an underground reservoir that covers 174,00 square miles (Opie 29-35).

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Opie, John. *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

See [paraphrase below](#).

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

Formed over millions of years as glaciers melted, carrying water, silt, and rocks down to the Great Plains (Opie 29-35).

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Opie, John. *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

See paraphrase below.

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

Over time, dirt, clay, and rocks accumulated above the waters, which are now about 300 feet beneath the depths of the surface (Opie 29-35)

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Lewis, Jack. "The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea." *EPA Journal* 16.6 (Nov./Dec. 1990): 42. MasterFILE Premier. *EBSCOhost*. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

See paraphrase below.

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

The Ogallala can hold enough water to fill Lake Huron plus one-fifth of Lake Ontario (Lewis).

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Lewis, Jack. "The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea." *EPA Journal* 16.6 (Nov./Dec. 1990): 42. MasterFILE Premier. *EBSCOhost*. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

"If pumped out over the United States, the High Plains aquifer would cover all 50 states with one and one-half feet of water" (Lewis).

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

2. The Nature & Extent of the Problem

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Opie, John. *Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

“The center pivot is a 1300-foot-long pipe that is held eight feet off the ground by a row of seven or more towers on large wheels. Sprinklers are attached at regular intervals along the pipe, pointing up or down. One end of the pipe is set in the middle of a 160-acre quarter section around which the pipe and the wheeled towers circulate.” (Opie 146)

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author’s exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

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Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

See paraphrase below.

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author’s exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

Water in the Ogallala has been reduced by 11% since 1930 (Lewis).

Source Citation

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Lewis, Jack. “The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea.” *EPA Journal* 16.6 (Nov./Dec. 1990): 42. MasterFILE Premier. *EBSCOhost*. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

See paraphrase below.

Paraphrase or Summary

The use of center-pivot irrigation leads to 600-800% higher crop production per acre than traditional than dry-land farming (Lewis).

Source Citation

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Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

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Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

3. The Solution: Sustainable Farming Practices

This section is the place for you to **explain your position** on the topic. For example, if your topic is a problem that needs to be solved, you can recommend or argue what you think is the best solution to the problem. Or if your topic is a development, movement, or trend, you can reach a conclusion about whether the development, movement, or trend is having positive, negative, or morally-ambiguous effects on people or society. You can also make educated predictions about future effects of this development or express concerns that you have regarding where this development is headed.

Source Citation

Copy and paste the MLA citation from SIRS or Gale, or create a proper MLA citation yourself by gathering the citation information from the source.:

Important Information (and pg.#, if a print source)

Copy and paste a direct quotation from the source here:

Paraphrase or Summary

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Paraphrase or Summary

Put the information into your own words, and do not keep any of the author's exact wording or the same sentence structure. If you keep even a short phrase or distinctive word that the author uses, you must use quotation marks around that language.:

Part II - List of Sources (This list will eventually become your *Works Cited* page.)

Source Number	Works Cited Entry for Each Source	URL (if this source was found on the Web)	Assessment of the Source's Credibility & Usefulness
Source 1	<p>Two Examples:</p> <p>Opie, John. <i>Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land</i>. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.</p> <p>Thorpe, Helen. "Waterworld." <i>Texas Monthly</i> 23.9 (Sept. 1995): 44. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCOhost. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.</p> <p>Open the following link to find the correct format for citing different kinds of sources:</p> <p>CHS Library Citation Style Guide</p>		<p>1) What is the author's purpose (to <i>inform</i>, to <i>entertain</i>, to <i>persuade</i>, or to <i>express thoughts and feelings</i>) and what type of source is it? (For example, is it an encyclopedia article, an opinion essay, a letter to the editor, a news article or report, an article in a scientific journal, a feature article, an infographic, a blog post?)</p> <p>2) What is the author's level of expertise and trustworthiness? (For example, is the author biased or objective? Also, does the author possess a narrow, slanted knowledge of the subject, or an "expert's" knowledge of the subject?)</p> <p>3) Why is this source useful to you? What kinds of information did you find in it?</p>
Source 2	<p>Opie, John. <i>Ogallala: Water for a Dry Land</i>. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1993. Print.</p>		<p>1) The author's purpose is to <u>inform</u>. It is a book published by a university.</p> <p>2) The author is a <u>university researcher</u> and an <u>expert</u>. He seems <i>unbiased</i>.</p> <p>3) I can use information from this source in both Part 1 - Background of the Problem and Part 2 - the Nature & Extent of the Problem.</p>
Source 2	<p>Lewis, Jack. "The Ogallala Aquifer: An Underground Sea." <i>EPA Journal</i> 16.6 (Nov./Dec. 1990): 42. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCOhost. 5 Nov. 2000. Web.</p>		<p>1) The author's purpose is to <u>inform</u>. It is an article published by the Environmental Protection Agency.</p> <p>2) The author is an <u>EPA researcher</u> and is clearly an <u>expert</u>. He seems <i>unbiased</i>, but I think a farmer might disagree with me.</p> <p>3) I can use information from this source in both Part 1 - Background of the Problem and Part 2 - the Nature & Extent of the Problem.</p>

Source 3			
Source 4			
Source 5			
Source 6			