# 5 Steps in College-Level Writing

# 1. Gain your own perspective

• What exactly are you going to write about? How are you going to approach the topic and share your perspective with your reader? What is your unique point of view?



#### 2. Find quality resources

• Generally, peer-reviewed resources are more reliable than resources created and monitored by the public (like Wikipedia or news sites).

# 3. Select short, valuable quotes

 Resources should not drive a paper. Quotes should be used to demonstrate and support, but do not themselves count as your perspective (and should not be used to inflate the word count!).



# 4. Use textual signals

• Transition words are a road map to help the reader understand who is speaking and which direction the paper is going.

# 5. Quote and cite!

 The purpose of citations is not only to demonstrate we know how to copy properly, but also to give credit to the original author for their words and ideas.



(Assignment Calculator)

(Nine Things you Should Already Know About Plagiarism)

(OU Writing Center)