

As recently as 2009, Smith discovered that nearly a quarter of people who prefer creamy peanut butter will refuse to eat crunchy peanut butter (12).

Analysis

Quotes and other specific information may require further explanation to communicate their utility. Here, the author might follow his paraphrase of the Smith study with an interpretation of it that supports his claim about acceptability:

<u>Example:</u> This number is striking, especially when compared to the relatively low percentage of people who prefer crunchy and reject creamy (5%), and clearly demonstrates the degree to which crunchy peanut butter is considered unacceptable by those who prefer creamy.

Elaboration

To thoroughly make the case, you may choose to provide even further analysis to complete a paragraph's message. However, it is important not to become redundant or tedious. The present author added:

<u>Example</u>: Conversely, creamy peanut butter enjoys a high degree of acceptability among people who prefer crunchy.

Summary

Before moving on to a subsequent paragraph, it may be useful to articulate one more time what the paragraph has accomplished. As with the topic sentence, a final sentence should provide an overview of the entire paragraph's purpose and its relationship to the thesis statement.

<u>Example:</u> Consequently, Smith concludes "that [creamy] is the peanut butter more likely to transcend boundaries of personal taste" (65).

Full example

Creamy peanut butter is also superior to crunchy peanut butter in the area of acceptability. As recently as 2009, Smith discovered that nearly a quarter of people who prefer creamy peanut butter will refuse to eat crunchy peanut butter (12). This number is striking, especially when compared to the relatively low percentage of people who prefer crunchy and reject creamy (5%), and clearly demonstrates the degree to which crunchy peanut butter is considered unacceptable by those who prefer creamy. Consequently, Smith concludes "that [creamy] is the peanut butter more likely to transcend boundaries of personal taste" (65). Creamy is thus more accepted than crunchy.

Notice that nothing in that paragraph is about matters unrelated to acceptability. The author does not talk about jelly or varieties of creamy peanut butter (e.g. natural or regular). The author simply states the idea, uses specifics to back it up, explains his research, and finds a new way to summarize the idea.