



Argument Essays

The Counterargument



Sentence 1: The topic sentence

Nevertheless, However + some opponents/critics may argue/assert/claim /contend/maintain that + objection.

Nevertheless, some opponents may argue that social networking sites may harm users.



Sentence 2: Explain the reason

Reason:

Social networking sites may harm users.

Sentence 2 (explanation)

Users are at risk of having their accounts hacked for personal details.



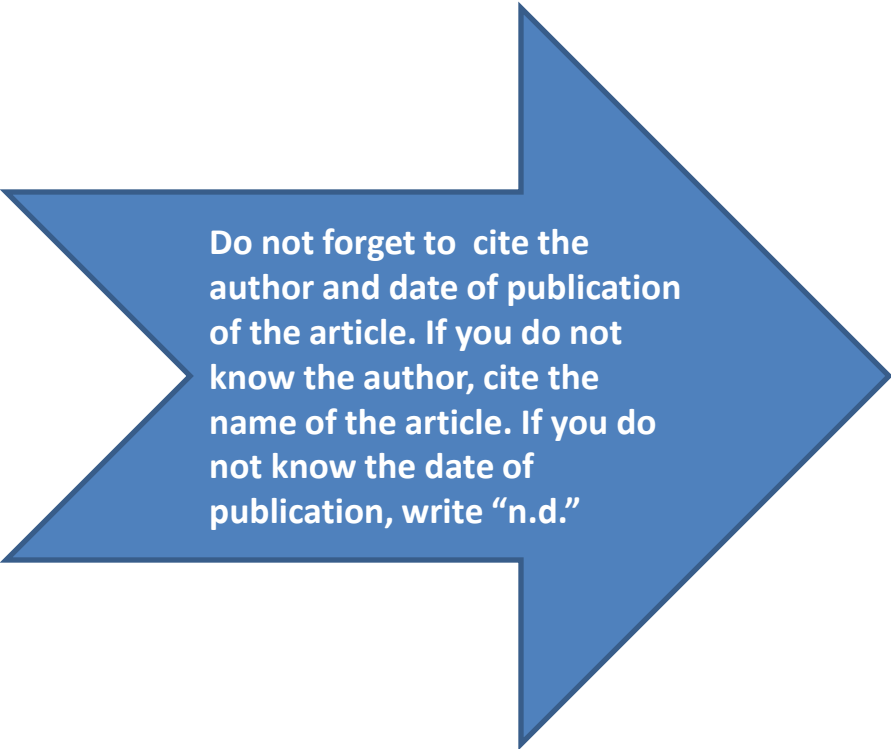
Sentence 3: Add expert evidence

Reason:

Social networking sites may harm users.

Sentence 3 (expert evidence)

Jeff Johnson (n.d.) writes, “Students might put information – such as their name, age, place, photos and even telephone numbers on their profile – which may be taken by some unknown persons.”

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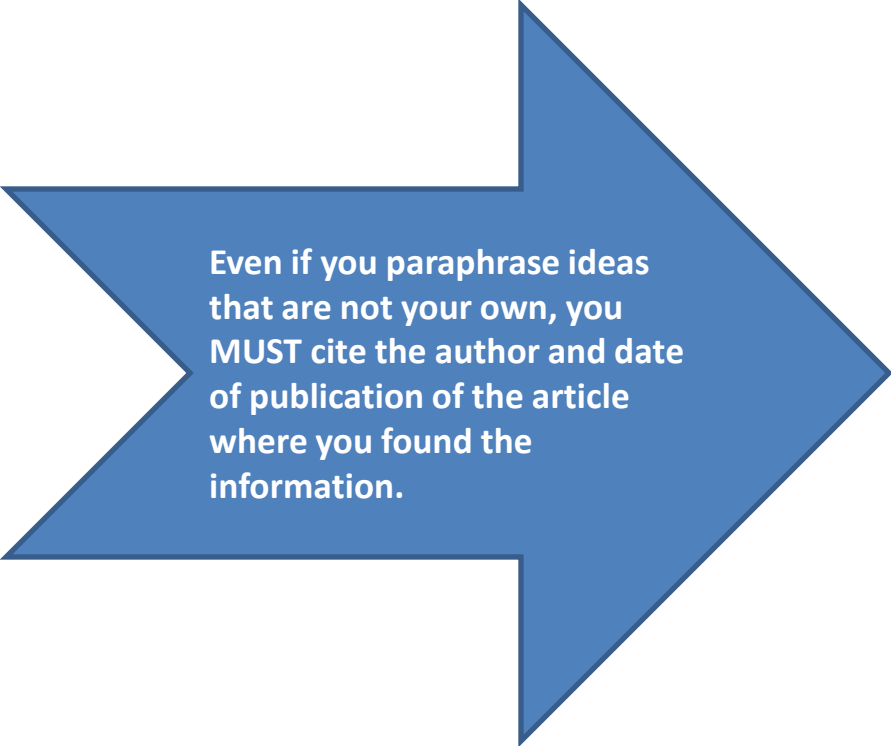
Do not forget to cite the author and date of publication of the article. If you do not know the author, cite the name of the article. If you do not know the date of publication, write “n.d.”



Sentence 4: Add examples/statistics

Reason:

Social networking sites may harm users.



Even if you paraphrase ideas that are not your own, you **MUST** cite the author and date of publication of the article where you found the information.

Sentence 4 (statistic)

According to software security experts at Sophos, each day hackers are able to access information in approximately 600,000 Facebook accounts (“Facebook Security Infographic,” 2011).



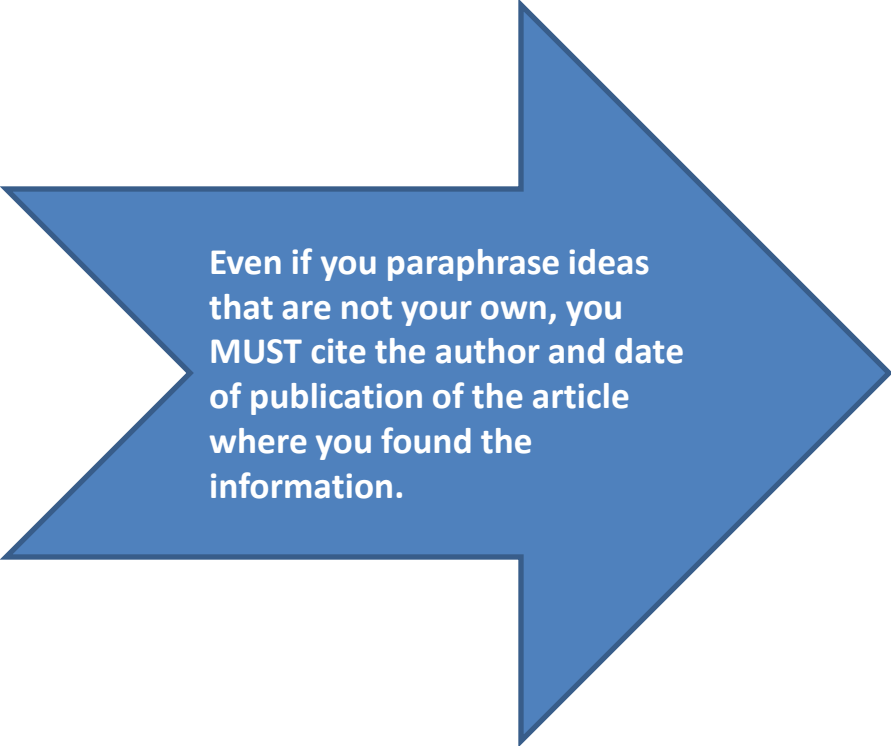
Sentence 5: Add analysis sentence

Reason:

Social networking sites may harm users.

Sentence 5 (analysis)

In other words, people using social networking networks place themselves at risk of communicating with people who may misuse private information to harm them or someone else.



Even if you paraphrase ideas that are not your own, you **MUST** cite the author and date of publication of the article where you found the information.



Advice: What to do if you do not have 125-150 words in your paragraph

- Add another example
- Add more statistics

Using the stolen information, anyone – including perverts and other dangerous people – can form a relationship that could harm an innocent person.



Model argument paragraph

Nevertheless, some opponents may argue that social networking sites may harm users. Users are at risk of having their accounts hacked for personal details. Jeff Johnson (n.d.) writes, “Students might put information – such as their name, age, place, photos and even telephone numbers on their profile – which may be taken by some unknown persons.” According to software security experts at Sophos, each day hackers are able to access information in approximately 600,000 Facebook accounts (“Facebook Security Infographic,” 2011). Using the stolen information, anyone – including perverts and other dangerous people – can form a relationship that could harm an innocent person. In other words, people using social networking networks place themselves at risk of communicating with people who may misuse private information to harm them or someone else. (126 words)