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# Comparative Essay

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# Research

[ALJ Media Center Home Page](#)

Helpful databases for this essay:

[EBSCO MasterFile Premier](#)

[Facts On File](#)

[Literature Resource Center](#)

All Database passwords can be found on the homepage

# Novelist









1. Choose EBSCO MasterFile Premier on the ALJ media center homepage
2. Username: aljhs // Password: ebsco
3. Choose “Novelist”
4. Start searching

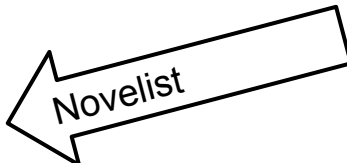
Other places to find readalikes...

1. Goodreads
2. <https://www.bookbrowse.com/read-alikes>

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	Novelist
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# Writing in Literature

- [Developing a Thesis](#)
- [Topics & Research](#)
- [Literary Terms](#)
- [Paraphrasing: Put It In Your Own Words](#)

# MLA Formatting

- [Andy Spink's MLA guide](#)
- [Purdue Owl](#)

# Avoiding Plagiarism

## Writing paraphrases or summaries

- Use a statement that credits the source somewhere in the paraphrase or summary (e.g., According to Jonathan Kozol, ...).
- If you're having trouble summarizing, try writing your paraphrase or summary of a text without looking at the original, relying only on your memory and notes.
- Check your paraphrase or summary against the original text; correct any errors in content accuracy, and be sure to use quotation marks to set off any exact phrases from the original text.
- Check your paraphrase or summary against sentence and paragraph structure, as copying those is also considered plagiarism.
- Put quotation marks around any unique words or phrases that you cannot or do not want to change: e.g., "savage inequalities" exist throughout our educational system (Kozol).

# Avoiding Plagiarism

## Writing direct quotations

- Keep the source author's name in the same sentence as the quote.
- Mark the quote with quotation marks, or set it off from your text in its own block, per the style guide your paper follows.
- Quote no more material than is necessary; if a short phrase from a source will suffice, don't quote an entire paragraph.
- To shorten quotes by removing extra information, use ellipsis points (...) to indicate omitted text, keeping in mind that:
  - In longer quotes where you have omitted a sentence in between other complete sentences, maintain terminal punctuation in between the ellipses.
  - **Example:** "None of the national reports I saw made even passing references to inequality or segregation. . . Booker T. Washington was cited with increasing frequency, Du Bois never, and Martin Luther King only with cautious selectivity." (Kozol 3).
- To give context to a quote or otherwise add wording to it, place added words in brackets, ( [] ); be careful not to editorialize or make any additions that skew the original meaning of the quote—do that in your main text, e.g.,
  - **OK:** Kozol claims there are "savage inequalities" in our educational system, which is obvious.
  - **WRONG:** Kozol claims there are "[obvious] savage inequalities" in our educational system.
- Use quotes that will have the most rhetorical, argumentative impact in your paper; too many direct quotes from sources may weaken your credibility, as though you have nothing to say yourself, and will certainly interfere with your style

# Avoiding Plagiarism

## Writing about another's ideas

- Note the name of the idea's originator in the sentence or throughout a paragraph about the idea.
- Use parenthetical citations, footnotes, or endnotes to refer readers to additional sources about the idea, as necessary.
- Be sure to use quotation marks around key phrases or words that the idea's originator used to describe the idea.

## Check your paper

- [Plagiarism Checker](#)