



What is an Objective Synthesis Paper?

An objective synthesis paper reports information by *combining* different sources on a similar topic.

Key Features:

- Remain as objective as possible. Keep your own opinions out of your writing.
- This paper is organized by *themes*.
- Remember: The Objective Synthesis paper is not a summary. Aim to make connections between your sources through themes.

How to Write an Objective Synthesis Paper:

Step 1: **Research.** Read the articles your professor has provided or has prompted you to find.

Tip: **Make as many notes as you need** to in order to fully understand the main ideas and key concepts. Try creating separate summaries for each source to guarantee you understand the material.

Step 2: **Find a common topic.** This should be an idea that all your sources have in common.

Step 3: **Find common themes.** Fill out a Grid that organizes the themes and what the sources write about the theme. For example:

Theme	Author 1	Author 2	Author 3

Step 4: **Create a topic sentence for each theme.** The topic sentence should relate to all the sources you are combining. Ideally, each of these sentences will correlate to their own separate body paragraphs. **Think about the relationship between the articles/authors. Do they agree on a theme? Disagree? Does one extend the argument of the other?**

Step 5: **Finish the rest of your paper** (Introduction and Conclusion paragraphs) The thesis statement of an objective synthesis will be an unifying idea that connects the themes of the sources.

Sample Work Flow
Step 1: **Research**

Sources: George Orwell’s (1946) “Politics and the English Language” and William Lutz’s (1996) *The New Doublespeak*

Step 2: **Find a common topic**

Common Topic: Language.

Step 3: **Find common themes**

Themes:

- How Language and Thought Interact
- How can Influence Thought Unconsciously
- How People can Consciously Use language to Manipulate Others

Theme	Orwell	Lutz
How Language and Thought Interact	Language is a tool that expresses thought	Language is a tool that interprets information into understandable parts.
How Language Influences Thought Unconsciously	Language reflects thought but can sway the direction of thought as well.	Language interprets reality and reflects subjectivity.
How People Can Consciously Use Language to Manipulate Others	Politicians use speech to mask obvious things to make them more acceptable.	Politicians use language to manipulate and control people by invoking emotion in order to cloud the judgment of their audience.

Step 4: **Create a topic sentence for each theme.**

Theme ----->Topic Sentence

Think of the relationship between the articles/authors. Do they agree on a theme? Disagree? Does one extend the argument of the other?

How Language and Thought Interact -----> Both Orwell and Lutz argue that language provides a means to communicate people’s thoughts.

How Language Influences Thought Unconsciously-----> Try creating one of your own

How People Can Consciously Use Language to Manipulate Others ---> Try creating one of your own

Example Thesis Statement= George Orwell’s (1946) “Politics and the English Language” and William Lutz’s (1996) *The New Doublespeak* investigate the ways in which language can be manipulated to shape perception and the power people gain from that manipulation.

Lead-in that introduces the topic.

Sample Objective Synthesis: Manipulating Perspectives

Language permeates every facet of human life and often indicates many things about a person.

Depending on which language, dialect, or tone someone uses, much can be said about that person’s personality, socioeconomic position, or even political inclinations. This pervasive characteristic of language—wherein it appears in almost every aspect of life—can also influence thought and action in often seemingly innocuous ways. While George Orwell’s (1946) “Politics and the English Language” presents an overview of the issues regarding sloppy language use and manipulation of language, William Lutz’s (1996) *The New Doublespeak* presents an updated look into the way language shapes reality and how that manipulation of reality can be used to gain power by looking at the psychology of modern-day English. Both of these works investigate the ways in which the English language can be manipulated to shape perception and the power garnered from that manipulation.

Thesis represents a unifying idea

Individual’s thoughts shape the way they view reality, and language provides a means to communicate their perspectives. Orwell suggests a relationship between language and thought when speaking of the English language in particular. Orwell (1946) states, “it becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish, but the slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts” (p.1). This statement implies an equal impact of language and thought on each other. Lutz offers a more in-depth analysis of the way language acts as a filter for thoughts. Lutz (1996) refers to a system in the mind that acts as an interpreter for all input into the brain, and “when confronted with the results of the subconscious processes of the brain, the interpreter tries to make some sense out of them” (p.17). This psychological description of the way human beings interpret reality lends itself to the idea that reality is often subjective, yet language provides a medium through which people can compromise on a collective objective reality.

Topic sentence that reflects one of the major themes.

Sample conclusion

George Orwell’s (1946) “Politics and the English Language” and William Lutz’s (1996) *The New Doublespeak* discuss the ways in which language can be manipulated to shape people’s interpretation of reality and the power people gain from that manipulation. Although language on

its own is merely an expression of people's thoughts, the bias language can lead to the interpretation of reality can lead to individuals taking advantage of the power of language. This power is gained through the ability to control the way people think about subjects, and this is especially true about the speech politicians use to persuade vast amounts of people to their causes.