**Claim, Cite, Clarify**

**Claim (Green)**: Your opinion or answer to the question.

**Cite (Blue)**: The evidence you use to back up your opinion.

**Clarify (Red)**: Analyze your evidence and link it to your opinion.

**How to do this:**

**Claim (answer the question)**

* Make an inference.
* Give an opinion.

Example: People have a deep prejudice toward the Jews in France.

**Cite (evidence in three steps)**

* Introduce your quote. Write a short introductory sentence followed by a colon OR write an introductory phrase followed by a comma.
* Use the quote.
* Use the MLA formatted page number.

Example: Sarah experiences this first hand: “She [the concierge] said she knew there were other families in the building next door. She pronounced their names with an expression of distaste…as if she was saying a swearword” (DeRosnay 14).

**Clarify (Analysis)**

**How the quote supports your claim and why it is relevant**

* Explain the importance (This is significant because…)
* Give an effect. (Because of this decision…)
* Give a reason (He made this choice because…)
* Compare and contrast with something. (This is different from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because…)
* Make an “if, then” statement. (If this happened, then…)
* Make a connection to another event or to ideas past or present. (This is similar to…).

Example: The concierge hates the idea that there are Jews in her building. She willingly gives them up. The simile “as if she was saying a swear word” denotes anger and disgust with the whole race of people. This is similar to how Jews are treated all over Europe.