



Academic Support Center Using APA: In-Text Citations (APA 6th Edition, Revised January 2018)

WHEN TO CITE SOURCES IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

The reference page at the end of your research paper provides a full citation for each of the sources you have used in your paper. You also need to indicate within your paper when you are incorporating the ideas, theories, or research of others. *Whether you are providing a direct quotation or paraphrasing material* from a source in your own words, you must provide a citation that gives credit to the ideas of others as you use them to build your thesis. Such material may include:

- Ideas, theories, or research that directly influenced your work.
- Key background information that supports or disputes your theory, or that offers critical definitions or data.
- Facts and figures that are not common knowledge.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS—THE BASICS

In-text parenthetical citations are used to give credit to the authors whose ideas or thoughts are presented within the document. These internal citations allow the reader to identify the source and locate the information being addressed. APA uses a system that includes the author's last name and the year of publication.

A decrease in the same presentation of violent behavior has been documented after exposure to music therapy (Silverman & Marcionetti, 2004).

According to Silverman and Marcionetti (2004), exposure to music therapy has a positive effect on decreasing violent behavior.

If you are citing a direct quotation, the page number is also included.

Awareness of culture is vital as it “shapes the way patients express, experience, and cope with their feelings of distress, and how they describe and explain their symptoms” (Dayer-Berenson, 2011, p. 44).

Dayer-Berenson (2011) claims culture “shapes the way patients express, experience, and cope with their feelings of distress, and how they describe and explain their symptoms” (p. 44).

If the source does not have an author, use the first several words of the title enclosed in quotation marks.

Emergency room wait times in Massachusetts are higher than the national average (“ER Wait Watcher,” 2013).

INCORPORATING SOURCE MATERIAL

Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing is when you put someone else's ideas in your own words. Even if you are paraphrasing, you must give the author(s) credit for that information or idea. *Changing a few words here and there is still considered plagiarism, even if you do cite the author.*

Original Passage:

"Signed into law in January 2002 by President George W. Bush, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act signaled the nation's most sweeping education reform of federal education policy in decades" (Smith, 2008, p. 212).

Unacceptable Paraphrasing:

Enacted into law in 2002 by President Bush, the No Child Left Behind Act signaled the most sweeping education reform of U.S. educational policy in decades.

Acceptable Paraphrasing:

According to Smith (2008), the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Act provided the most all-encompassing reform in U.S. education in almost half a century.

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Act provided the most all-encompassing reform in U.S. education in almost half a century (Smith, 2008).

Citations of paraphrases must include the name of the author and the year of publication of the original source. Some professors, however, require page numbers for all paraphrases—be sure to check!

Cunningham (2013) found that a large majority of undergraduate students . . .

The Dartmouth Clinic homepage (2014) summarizes their services . . .

Carnona's 2014 research study found that the cost of treating obesity is exceeded only by . . .

The basis for this argument is provided by a recent comprehensive study of childhood definitions of security (Johnson, 2013).

Direct Quotations

When you directly quote an author, you need to provide the *exact* words. Include the exact spelling and interior punctuation of the borrowed words.

According to Schoenfeld (2010), "When one learns to read, the first and most profound effect is that one becomes suddenly a part of the global conversation – able to tell one's own story, and to learn from the stories of others whom we will never meet" (p. 2).

There are only two exceptions to this rule.

1. You may use ellipses (. . .) to indicate you have omitted material from the **middle** of a quoted section. Do **NOT** use ellipses at the beginning or the end of a direct quote.

Schoenfeld (2010) states, "When one learns to read . . . one becomes suddenly a part of the global conversation – able to tell one's own story, and to learn from the stories of others whom we will never meet" (p. 2).

2. You may add additional words or explanations to clarify the meaning of the direct quote. Use **brackets** to enclose these additional words.

Schoenfeld (2010) states, "The first and most profound effect [of learning to read] is that one becomes suddenly a part of the global conversation – able to tell one's own story, and to learn from the stories of others whom we will never meet" (p. 2).

If you are citing a quotation from an electronic source with no page numbers and the paragraphs are numbered, use a paragraph number, followed by the abbreviation **para.**

Basu and Jones (2014) went so far as to suggest the need for a new “intellectual framework in which to consider the nature and form of regulation in cyberspace” (para. 4).

If the paragraphs are not numbered, direct readers to a specific location by listing the heading under which the quotation appears and then note the number of the paragraph by counting yourself.

Verbunt and Smeets (2013) found “the level of perceived disability in patients with fibromyalgia was explained more by their mental health condition and less by their physical condition” (Discussion section, para. 3).

Block Quotations (use very sparingly!)

Place quotations longer than 40 words in a free-standing block and omit quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line, indented 1/2 inch from the left margin (in the same position as a new paragraph); maintain double-spacing throughout. The parenthetical citation comes **AFTER** the closing punctuation mark.

Cunningham (2003) concludes:

There is much to recommend the adoption of an openly declared student choice policy in schools that use animals in psychology education. It offers students the opportunity to explore and develop their values, become more independent decision-makers, and play a more active role in shaping department policies and procedures. (p. 17)

MULTIPLE AUTHORS

Two Authors:

When a work has two authors, cite both last names **every time** the reference occurs in your text. Use the word “and” to connect the authors in your text; use an ampersand in parenthetical references.

Hurst and Beyson (2014) found that recognition among vertebrates . . .

According to one study (Hurst & Beyson, 2014), the link between genetics and . . .

Three, Four, or Five Authors:

Cite all authors the first time the reference occurs. Thereafter, include only the last name of the first author followed by “et al.” and the year if it is the first citation in the paragraph.

Kisangau, Lyaruu, Hosea, and Joseph (2015) found . . . [first citation in your paper]

Kisangau et al. (2015) concluded that . . . [first citation per paragraph from then on]

Six or More Authors:

Include only the last name of the first author followed by **et al.** and the year of publication.

Gordon et al. (2013) challenged the findings of . . .

A group of doctors (Gordon et al., 2013) challenged the findings of . . .

No Author:

If the source does not have an author, use an abbreviated version of the title enclosed in quotation marks. Note that you capitalize all essential words in the in-text citation.

The use of technology may actually impede students’ learning (“iPads Could Hinder,” 2014).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If you reference the same source more than once in the same paragraph, you only need to include the year of publication the first time you use the source in the body of your sentence. Although you need to make it clear that you are referencing the same source within the same paragraph, you may omit the year from subsequent citations. You do need to include the year in all parenthetical citations.

Breaking the tradition of conventional nursing report presents many challenges. Griffin (2010) notes that bedside report requires a practice change that may raise issues with nurses related to time management and communication skills. Many nurses may need practice speaking in front of many people. Nurses also worry about potential privacy violations. Benefits to bedside report include “an opportunity to acknowledge and act on patient and family observations . . . (and to) incorporate their observations and desires into the plan of care” (Griffin, 2010, p. 352). Additionally, bedside report allows the patient to ask questions and be involved in his/her healthcare plan. Griffin further notes that bedside report provides an opportunity to educate patients and their families.

If you reference two or more works by different authors to support your point, list the works in alphabetical order and separate them with semi-colons.

Several researchers have confirmed Erikson’s theory of adolescent identity crises (Bryson, 2014; Drummond, 2012; Oluphant, 2015).

If you refer to multiple works by the same author with the same publication date, identify works by adding the suffixes a, b, c, and so forth after the year. These kinds of references are ordered alphabetically by title on the Reference page.

Several studies (Johnson, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c; Singh, 2014) found that . . .

Johnson (2015b) conducted an additional . . .

If you refer to an entire web site, but not a specific document on the site, provide the complete URL address.

Kidpsych is a wonderful interactive Web site for children (<http://www.kidpsych.org>).

AN INDIRECT SOURCE

If you are paraphrasing or quoting material cited within the text of one of your sources, indicate the author of the original material in the body of your sentence. Use the phrase “as cited in” followed by the author and year of the text in which you found the material.

Supporting data appears in a study by Wong (as cited in Marconi & Hamblen, 2010).

Seidenberg and McClelland concluded that “determining criteria for studying home movies of autistic children was difficult due to the differences in quality and dating of the available videotapes” (as cited in Coltheart, 2012, p. 45).

GROUP or CORPORATE AUTHORS

If you are using a source (most often a web-based source, a pamphlet, or promotional material) that does not list any author's name, most likely there will be a group author. The name of this group, corporation, hospital, association, government agency, or research organization is considered the author of this source and should be cited accordingly. If the group name is long and cumbersome, and if the abbreviation is familiar or readily understandable, you may abbreviate the name in the second and subsequent citations in your paper. If the name is short or if the abbreviation would not be readily understandable, write out the name each time it occurs.

First text citation:

In a recent report, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH; 2013) . . .

Subsequent text citations:

In the NIMH (2013) report. . .

If you are referencing several different pages of a central corporate web site, identify the group author in your sentence, then include the first two-three words of the title of the linked page you are citing (followed by the page or paragraph number if you are using a direct quote).

According to a St. Joseph Hospital press release (“Pregnancy and Parenting,” 2014) the focus of Our Place is “on the health and wellness of the family unit [of a pregnant teen], mothers, fathers and sometimes even grandparents and siblings” (para. 2).

FULL TITLE: “A Pregnancy and Parenting Program for Teens and Young Adults”

The mission of St. Joseph Hospital, as stated on their website, is “to provide compassionate care that contributes to the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of all in our community, as inspired by the healing ministry of Jesus” (“About Us,” 2014, para. 1).

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION—INTERVIEWS, CLASS NOTES

Personal communication includes interviews, letters, e-mails, and class notes that are not posted on Canvas. The *first* time you refer to this type of source in the body of your paper, cite the communicator's name, identify who he or she is and the type of personal communication, and provide the date of the communication. You do not need to repeat this information again. (Personal communication is *not* listed on your reference page.)

Dr. Edward Dalton, head of the Elliot Breast Health Center team, believes that women deserve “prompt, definitive answers about their mammograms and biopsies” (personal communication, May 12, 2014).

Sociological imagination allows people to connect their personal troubles with larger social forces and understand them as public issues, not just private ones (M. Day, class notes, November 12, 2013).

Sample Paragraph:

Cultural competence encompasses skills, knowledge, and behaviors that are poorly understood by many in the general community. Due to lack of understanding, people may see little need to adapt themselves to others around them, and instead feel that minorities should simply change their values, standards, and beliefs to fit in with their environment. When practitioners take time to learn about their patients, however, they discover their patients' identities and acknowledge their values and beliefs, building the trust necessary for cultural competence to develop. Researchers point out that education programs and teaching strategies to develop cultural competence among students and nurses are not doing enough and conclude that the conceptualization and implementation of cultural competence are poorly understood among health professionals, students, and patients (Gebru & Willman, 2010; Johnstone & Kanitsaki, 2007; Long 2012). According to Jenks (2011), it is not enough to be aware of cultural difference. Jenks states that awareness is "insufficient to bring about transformation in human relationships and does not eliminate ethnic, racial, and cultural discrimination, or potential inequalities" (p. 53). Blanchet, Garneau, and Pepin (2015) propose a modified definition of the concept of cultural competence is needed. Using a constructivist perspective, Blanchet et al. define cultural competence as:

A complex know-act grounded in critical reflection and action, which the health care professional draws upon to provide culturally safe, congruent, and effective care in partnership with individuals, families, and communities' living health experiences, and which takes into account the social and political dimensions of care. (p. 12)

This proposed definition provides a framework for the promotion of social justice in the nursing discipline and for questioning past and current clinical practices.

Start paragraph with your own analysis

Include the pub. year after author's name the FIRST time it is cited in a paragraph

Provide p. # for a direct quote

If a direct quote is more than 40 words, set it off as a blocked quote.

Use a semi-colon to separate multiple citations

If there are fewer than six authors, list ALL of them the first time you cite them in your paper. After that, use the first author's last name and *et al.*
If there are six or more authors, use *et al.* from the start.

End paragraph with your own analysis