



How to Write Citations and Bibliographies in APA Style

Introduction

When information is quoted or referred to in a paper, a text citation is given to identify the source of the quotation or information. These text citations refer to full citations which are listed in the bibliography (also called reference list) at the end of the paper. The bibliography is a list of works quoted or referred to in the paper. The bibliography is arranged in alphabetical order by the surname of the first author, or by title, if there is no author.

The examples shown in this handout are based on:

American Psychological Association

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association

5th ed. Washington, D. C.: APA, 2001.

Text citations (examples of some common text citations)

The text citation appears in the text of the paper immediately before or after the quotation or the reference to a work. It cites the author and date of the work you are referring to. If you are citing a specific part of a source, or when you are using a quotation, give the page reference also. The text citation briefly identifies the source and allows readers to locate the full citation in your bibliography/reference list - and, from there, identify and locate the source.

General text citations where the whole source was used: In both examples, the complete information about the work by Smith would appear in the bibliography after Smith's name. If you cite more than one work published by Smith in 1960 you would write the citations as: Smith, 1960a and Smith, 1960b.

Smith (1960) sighted whales on June 15, 1960...

OR

Whales were sighted on June 15, 1960 (Smith, 1960)...

Text citations for a specific part of a source or for a quotation:

"Many university students mistakenly think that the aim of university is to learn *things*... That goal, taken to the extreme, would be dreary"
(Avery, 1989, p. 3).

OR

(Johnson, 2000, chap. 4)

Text citations where the author's name is very long: if possible, use an abbreviation in all text citations after the first one. If there is no readily recognizable abbreviation, then the author should be written in full each time. When this would be cumbersome, you might be able to shorten the author. **Remember**, the point of the text citation is to enable the reader to find the full citation in the bibliography.

Text citations for works with multiple authors: When a work has 2 authors, cite both names every time the reference occurs in text:

Russell and Jackson (1969)

When a work has 3, 4, or 5 authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs; in subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by "et al", and the date:

First reference: Wasserstein, Zapulla, Rosen, Gorstman, and Rock (1994)

Subsequent reference: Wasserstein et al. (1994)

When a work has 6 or more authors, cite only the surname of the first author followed by "et al" and the date for the first and subsequent references:

Kosslyn et al. (1996)

Note: in parenthetical material, in tables and captions, and in the reference list, join names by the ampersand (&):

as has been shown (Russell & Jackson, 1969)

Web citations and quotations in text: Follow the author/date format. To cite specific parts of a Web document, indicate the chapter, figure, table, or equation as appropriate. For quotations, give page numbers (or paragraph numbers) if they are available (omit if not available). For example:

As Myers (2000, ¶ 5) aptly phrased it, "positive emotions are both an end....and a means to a more caring and healthy society."

If necessary, the abbreviation "para." can be substituted for the ¶ symbol.

Bibliography/Reference List

The following are examples of the most commonly used source materials. For examples not given here, refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*.

Books

Book: Author (Date). *Title of book*. Edition if there is one. Place of publication: Publisher.

Cone, J. D. (1993). *Dissertations and theses from start to finish: Psychology and related fields*. Washington, D. C.: American Psychological Association.

If your book was written by 2 - 5 authors, put all their names after the name of the first author. Put them last name first in the order that they appear on the title page. If you have a book by 6 or more authors, list the first 6 authors, then use the abbreviation et al. to indicate that there are other authors. This also applies to citing multiple authors in journal articles.

Chapter, or article, in a book: Author. (Date). Title of chapter or article. In Author/Editor, *Title of book* (pages). Place of publication: Publisher.

Massaro, D. (1992). Broadening the domain of the fuzzy logical model of perception.

In H. L. Pick, Jr., P. van den Broek, & D. C. Knill (Eds.), *Cognition: conceptual and methodological issues* (pp. 51-84). Washington, D. C.: American Psychological Association.

Entry in an encyclopaedia (if the entry does not have an author, begin citation with the entry title and date): Author. (Date). Title of entry. In *Title of encyclopaedia* (volume, pages). Place of publication: Publisher.

Bergmann, P. G. (1993). Relativity. In *The encyclopedia Britannica* (Vol. 26, pp. 501-510). Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Periodicals

Journal article: Author. (Date). Title of the article. *Name of the periodical*, volume (number), pages.

Berk, D. A. (1993). In search of the typical eyewitness. *American Psychologist*, 48, 574-576.

Newspaper article without an author and from a daily newspaper: Title of the article. (Date). *Name of the newspaper*, pages.

New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

Personal communications

Personal communications, including letters, memos, some electronic communications (e.g., E-mail, discussion groups), interviews, or telephone conversations are not included in the bibliography. They are noted in the text only.

K.W. Schaie (Psychology professor, personal communication, April 19, 1996)...

Internet

Article in an ejournal (based on a print journal): Author. (Year). Title of the article [electronic version]. *Name of the periodical*. Volume (issue):pages.

Garbarino, E., & Lee, O.F. (2003). Dynamic pricing in internet retail: Effects on consumer trust [electronic version]. *Psychology and Marketing* 20:495-513.

ERIC document in E*Subscribe: Author. (Year). *Title of the document*. Place of publication: publisher. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED Number). Retrieved date, from E-Subscribe database.

Gardner, D. (2000) *Financial Aid for Individuals with Learning Disabilities*. Fast Facts. East Lansing, MI: National Centre for Research on Teacher Learning. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED469336) Retrieved August 7, 2003, from E-Subscribe database.

Article in a full text article index, e.g. Wilson, CBCA: Author. (Year). Title of the article. *Name of the periodical* (issue):pages. Retrieved date, name of database.

Smith, R. P. (1999). Risk Management in Undergraduate Engineering Economics Education. *Engineering Economist*, 44(2), 202-207. Retrieved August 7, 2003, from EBSCO Business Source Elite database.

Non-periodical documents on the web: Author. (Year). *Title*. Retrieved (Date) from (specify path).

Meyer, A. S. (n.d.). *Memories of a time gone by*. Retrieved February 6, 1996 from <http://www.OLDTIMES.COM/~MEYERS/MEMORIES.HTML>.

(n.d.) indicates that the Web page did not have a date on it.

Articles in Internet-only journals

Author. (Year). Title. *Journal Title*, volume (issue), paging or indicator of length. Retrieved (Date) from the World Wide Web (specify path).

Fredrickson, B.L. (2000, March 7). Cultivating positive emotions to optimize health and well-being. *Prevention & Treatment*, 3, Article 0001a. Retrieved November 20, 2000, from <http://journals.apa.org/prevention/volume3/pre0030001a.html>

General Information [

What if you don't know the date, place or publisher of the work that you are trying to cite? What if the work doesn't have a title? There are some general guidelines for writing citations where the bibliographic information is incomplete.

No author: Place the title in the author position.

Oil discovered off Newfoundland. (1982, April 6). *Evening Telegram*, p. A1.

No title: Use square brackets to indicate that the "title" is a description of the content, not a true title.

Bordi, F. (1993). [Laboratory results from a study on rats]. Unpublished raw data.

No date: If no date is available, write (n.d.).

Deutsch, F. M. (n.d.). *Husbands at home: Survival techniques*. Boston: Scribners.

No place of publication and/or no publisher: If there is no place of publication and/or no publisher, then write n.p. [Note: APA makes no provision for this situation - this is our suggestion]

Jones, S. A. (1807). *Lost and found: The personal memoirs of a born again Christian*. n.p.

Volume and issue number for journal articles: If a journal uses continuous pagination for the entire volume, you do not include the issue number in the citation. If each issue of the journal starts with page 1, then you do include the issue number in the citation.

Berk, D. A. (1993). In search of the typical eyewitness. *American Psychologist*, *48*, 574-576.

Jackson, John. (1997). Hunting the elusive. *Quarterly Journal of Relaxation*, *63* (2), 16-20.

Web sites: All references begin with the same information that would be provided for a printed source (or as much of that information as possible). The Web information is then placed at the end of the reference. It is important to use "Retrieved from" and the date because documents on the Web may change in content, move, or be removed from a site altogether.

