In-Text Citations - APA 6th edition

What to Cite

Basic APA Format
Always give the author(s) last name and year of publication. For direct quotations, also include the page number(s) (or paragraph number[s] for electronic documents).

Citing One or More Authors

For 2 authors: If an item (book or article) has two authors, list both authors’ last names with & (not and) between them in parentheses. If you’re using the names in a signal phrase, the word and is used instead of an ampersand (&). Both authors’ names should be listed every time these authors are cited.

For 3, 4, or 5 authors: Use the last names of all of the authors the first time; then use only the first author’s last name and et al. subsequently. (The Latin et al. means “and others.”) On the references page, list all authors for works with 3, 4, or 5 authors.

For 6 or more authors: Only the last name of the 1st author is listed in every in-text citation, followed by et al. On the references page, list all authors’ names up to 7. For 8 or more, list the first 6 followed by an ellipsis and the last author’s name.

In-Text Citation Examples:

| Two authors cited in parentheses                  | (Jones & Smith, 2008) |
| Two authors cited in a signal phrase              | According to Jones and Smith (2008), . . . |
| Three to five authors cited in parentheses        | (Stephens, Little, & Wolcott, 2007) |
| Subsequent citation with three to five authors (after the 1st time) | (Stephens et al., 2007) |
| Three to five authors cited in a signal phrase    | Stephens, Little, and Wolcott (2007) revealed . . . |
| Subsequent citation with three to five authors in a signal phrase (after 1st time) | Stephens et al. (2007) discovered that…. |
| Six or more authors cited in parentheses          | (Scottsberg et al., 2008) |
| Six or more authors cited in a signal phrase      | Scottsberg et al. (2008) found that…. |
| Group author (w/abbreviation) in parentheses     | (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2003) |
| Group author (w/abbreviation) in a signal phrase | According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH, 2003) |
| Book with no author in parentheses (use book title) | (Management Secrets, 2010) |
| Article with no author in parentheses (use article title) | (“Columbia U Prof,” 2008) |

For further assistance, please visit [http://guides.baker.edu/APAhelp](http://guides.baker.edu/APAhelp) Revised 8-9-19
One author, two entries with same date:
If two entries have the same author and year, cite them on the reference page as follows:

When two entries have the same author and year, entries are placed in alphabetical order by title of book/article; then designations of a, b, c etc. are given. They will be referred to in the text with the letter: Smith (2009a) or Smith (2009b). If there’s no date, use: Smith, J. (n.d.-a) or Smith, J. (n.d.-b).

No available date:

One paragraph, multiple citations:
The year is required in every parenthetical citation if the same citation is used multiple times within the paragraph. If a signal phrase is used, the year is required only in the first and last citations of the paragraph.

Internet entries:
Do not use URLs in-text (unless you are just mentioning a website in passing).
Entries from the Internet are NOT cited in-text as (www… URL) but rather by the name of the individual author or group author. Example: Home Depot’s website (2009) stated that…

Citing Short Quotations
If quoting fewer than 40 words word for word: The quotation is placed in quotation marks “ “. Credit must also be given: the author’s last name, year of publication, and page or paragraph number. The sentence’s end punctuation comes after the citation at the end of the sentence. Use direct quotations only when the information cannot be restated better than the original author stated it. See the examples below.

He defines innovation as “the specific tool of entrepreneurs, the means by which they exploit change as an opportunity for a different business or a different service” (Drucker, 1985, p. 20).

Peter Drucker (1985) defines innovation as “the specific tool of entrepreneurs, the means by which they exploit change as an opportunity for a different business or a different service” (p. 20).

Citing Long Quotations
If quoting more than 40 words word for word: Indent the quotation one-half inch from the left margin, and do not use quotation marks. Credit must also be given – the author’s last name, year, and page number. End punctuation comes before the citation at the end of the line. Use long quotations sparingly and only when the information cannot be restated better than the original author stated it. See the examples below:

Example 1
Drucker (1985) states that innovation is the specific tool of entrepreneurs, the means by which they exploit change as an opportunity for a different business or a different service. Entrepreneurs need to search purposefully for the sources of innovation, the changes and their symptoms that indicate opportunities for successful innovation. (p. 20)

Example 2
Innovation is defined as follows:
  The specific tool of entrepreneurs, the means by which they exploit change as an opportunity for a different business or a different service. Entrepreneurs need to search purposefully for the sources of innovation, the changes and their symptoms that indicate opportunities for successful innovation. (Drucker, 1985, p. 20)
Citing Electronic References with Headings

With electronic sources, the paragraph number is needed when you use a direct quotation from a web page. You should use the paragraph abbreviation “para.” and the number of the paragraph by counting the paragraphs from the beginning of the page. However, if the web page has headings, give the name of the heading followed by the word “section,” then the number of the paragraph within the section (count the paragraphs beginning at the heading). See the examples below:

- Citation for article with no headings: (McDowell, 2008, para. 2).
- Citation for article with headings: (McDowell, 2008, Union Power section, para. 2).

Citing Paraphrased Material

Paraphrasing is borrowing someone else’s ideas and rephrasing them in your own words. When paraphrasing, credit must still be given to the author because you are borrowing the ideas from the source, even though you are not using the author’s exact words. Not giving credit for the ideas is plagiarizing. When paraphrasing, include the author’s last name and the year of publication. The page or paragraph number is NOT required.

See examples below:

- Smith (2009) compared reaction times…
- In 2009, Smith compared reaction times …
- In a recent study of reaction times they appeared the same (Smith, 2009)…
- …at that time (Smith, 2009).

Secondary Citations (using a source cited within another source)

When citing a source cited within a source, name the original work in a signal phrase and give a citation for the secondary source. For example, if citing a quoted comment from Culver in Jones’s article (when you have not read Culver’s original work), cite that source as follows:

- According to Culver (as cited in Jones, 2009), learning APA "can be tough, but like any skill, it just takes practice" (p. 23).

- In addition, the mastery of APA increases an author's chance of scoring well on an assignment (Culver, as cited in Jones, 2009).

NOTE: If a paraphrase from Culver is used, the page number does NOT need to be included. Also, only Jones’s article is cited on the References page.

Adapted from example in “Citations: Secondary sources.” (n.d.) From Walden University at http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/apa/citations/secondarysources

Personal Communication (using a source your reader can’t access)

These are personal interviews, class lectures, and other sources inaccessible to readers.

IMPORTANT: Cite these only within the text, not on the references page. Use one of these formats:

According to J. Johnson (personal communication, April 2, 2019) . . .
“All’s well that ends well” (J. Johnson, personal communication, April 2, 2019).