



APA Style In-Text Citations

Reference Department
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These examples are based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, RESERVE BF76.7.P83 2001. **Refer to pp. 207-14 of that publication and your professor for other examples.**

General Rule

Every parenthetical citation must correspond to an entry in your list of references.

Put last name of author (editor, translator, compiler, etc.) followed by a comma and year of publication in parentheses. If you are giving a direct quotation, also give a page number (abbreviated "p.").

If the author or year of publication is clear from the prose outside the parentheses, do not repeat it inside the parentheses.

Smith (1995) surveyed this phenomenon.
A famous survey of this phenomenon (Smith, 1995) showed that....
In 1995 Smith demonstrated that....
"White rats are the best subjects for this test," said Smith (1985, p.50).

Punctuating Citations

The punctuation in your own writing follows the parenthetical citation. This is the case even when the citation is for a block quote--a long, indented quote, not surrounded by quotation marks.

Citing Works by Two Authors

Cite both last names every time you refer to the work. Inside parentheses, use the ampersand(&). Outside parentheses, use "and."

Smith and Brown (1990) surveyed this phenomenon.

Citing Works by Three, Four, or Five Authors

Cite all of them the first time you refer to the work, but in subsequent references follow the last name of the first author by et al. (with a period).

A recent survey (Smith, Brown, & Black, 1995) showed.... [first reference]
Smith et al. (1995) showed [second reference]

Citing Works by Six or More Authors

Consistently cite only the last name of the first author, followed by et al. (with a period).

Citing Works by Authors Who Have the Same Last Name

Include their first initials.

...such were their conclusions (Smith, J., 1984).

Citing More than One Work at a Time

When the citations are to works by the same author, order them by publication date, without repeating the author's name.

Recent surveys (Smith, 1984, 1990)....

When the citations are to works by different authors, order them alphabetically by last name, separating them by semicolons.

Several surveys (Brown, 1980; Griggs, 1988; Pepper, 1990)....

Citing Works with No Author

Use the first few words of the entry for that work in the reference list. Put quotation marks around the title of an article or chapter, and italicize the title of a book, periodical, brochure, or report.

"Survey of Hispanic Females" (1991)....
...a recent study (*Hispanic and Female*, 2000)....

Citing Works with No Date of Publication

Substitute "n.d." for the date.

..the findings proved to be false (Smith, n.d.).

Citing Works without Page Numbers

When providing a quotation from an electronic source that does not provide page numbers, use paragraph number, if available, preceded by the ¶ symbol or para. (with a period). If there are no paragraph numbers, use the section heading and the number of the paragraph within that section.

(Smith, 2000, ¶ 5)
(Brown, 2000, Introduction section, para. 1)

Citing Classical Works

For works that are too old to have a date of publication, give the year of the translation, preceded by trans., or the year of the version, followed by version.

(Euripides, trans. 1931)
(Euripides, 1929 version)

For major classical works, such as ancient Greek and Roman works and the Bible, identify the version you used and specify the part you are citing according to the standard way of referring to it—book, chapter, verse, line, or canto.

The poem alludes to 1 Genesis 1:1 (King James Version)....

Citing Personal Communications

Give the communicator's initials and last name and as precise a date as possible.

(R. J. Smith, personal communication, March 3, 2004)

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