The American Psychological Association
IN-TEXT CITATIONS

APA

Based on the 6th edition, 2nd printing of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

Intended Uses and Disclaimers: Consultants do not provide copyediting services for citation styles. This worksheet is intended to help writers learn how to work with citations appropriately on their own. While it provides a basic overview of the APA style, you will still need to look up each type of source you're working with in an APA guide when formatting your references. Always check with your professor if you have questions!

Parenthetical Citations

Parenthetical citations serve a cross-referencing purpose. Readers should be able to look at a parenthetical citation referring to "Smith," for example, and then look up "Smith" on the alphabetical list of sources on the References page to see the full citation. **Parenthetical citations should include the following information (separated by commas)**:

1. The author's last name
2. The year of publication
3. The page number, if applicable

Example: (Smith, 2014, p. 24)

When you refer to the author's name OUTSIDE of a parenthetical citation for the first time, provide the year of publication immediately after the first relevant mention of the author's name once per paragraph (not more).

Smith (2013) suggested tourists should see the fireworks (p. 2).

Sources without a year of publication use the abbreviation, "n.d." to signal that "no date" is available.

The Tallahassee summer crab festival is one of the city's most valued traditions (Washington, n.d.).

Working With Quotations

Introduce quotations with signal phrases written in your own words. Signal phrases should be in the past or present perfect tense.

Smith (2013) noted that "the crab festival began in 1973, but fireworks were not introduced until 1980" (p.2).

If you have removed any words from the quotation, mark that erasure with ellipses (**. . .**) to notify readers of the change. **If you have inserted any words into the quotation**, place brackets **[ ]** around the insertion to notify readers of those changes. Similarly, if you modify a portion of a word, place that modification in brackets (**"notify[ing] readers of changes" is important**).

End-of-the sentence punctuation goes after the final parenthesis (unless it's a block quotation).

Format any quotation that longer than forty words as a block quotation. To format a block quote, indent the text of the quotation, do not place quotation marks around the text, and place punctuation at the end of the quote before the citation.

Working with Titles and Authors' Names In-Text

Fully capitalize any titles you mention in the body of your paper (except for prepositions, articles, and conjunctions).

Italicize the titles of longer works (books, periodicals, newspapers, etc.).

Avoid using authors' full first names in the body of the paper (and on the References page) to prevent possible gender bias.

Questions? Ask your consultant!

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