APA Parenthetical Citation

Parenthetical citation (also known as in-text citation) is necessary to give credit, organize ideas, and provide reference to your References page. Without parenthetical citation, your paper will be difficult to follow and you are at risk of committing plagiarism. I advise you to cite after direct quotes, paraphrased sentences, and any other instance in which you include someone else’s work.

• **For most instances of APA parenthetical citation**, you will include the author’s name and the year of publication, with a comma in between. It will look like this: (Kane, 2015). Remember that the sentence does not end until after your citation, and so punctuation goes after the closing parenthesis.

• **If you include a direct quote**, include the page number in your citation, after another comma: (Kane, 2015, p. 16).

• **If you mention the source author’s name in the sentence**, you do not need to put it in the parentheses.

• **If your source has up to five authors**, list them: (Kane, Eilenberger, Sullivan, McSherry, & Champagne, 2015, p. 32.)

  If there are more than five authors, use the phrase “et al.”: (Kane et al., 2015).

• **If your source does not have an author**, use the title instead. It will look something like this: (“I Love to Write,” 2003, p. 85).

• **You may include multiple parenthetical insertions** in a sentence that refers to one source. It may look something like this: Kane (2015) insists that reading is crucial in developing “good writing skills” (p. 90).

APA References

Your References page(s) will help your reader identify, locate, and evaluate your sources. Be sure to use hanging indentation for your References page(s) (first line aligned to the left, following lines indented by half an inch). Alphabetize your entries, and do not put extra blank lines between them. If you do not find a certain piece of information (e.g., an author’s name or a website version number) you do not need to include it. However, do your best to find and document that information.

On the following pages, you will find several examples of APA-style citations.

Additional Resources

Purdue Owl
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
References

A book by a single author:
Author’s last name, then initials. (Year). Title of Book. City of publication, State: Publisher.


A book with two to seven authors:
All authors as described above, with commas & ampersand. (Year). Title of Book. City of publication, State: Publisher.


A book with eight or more authors:
First six authors as described above, . . . last author’s name. (Year). Title of Book. City of publication, State: Publisher.


An article in a scholarly journal, print:
Authors’ names as described above. (Year). Title of article. Journal Title, volume(issue), page range.


• If you are citing the abstract, put “[Abstract]” after the title.

An article in a scholarly journal, web:
Authors’ names as described above. (Year). Title of article. Journal Title, volume(issue), page range. doi:put the DOI here.


• If there is a URL rather than a DOI, replace the DOI entry with “Retrieved from” and include the URL.

An article in a magazine:
Author name(s). (Year, Month). Title of article. Magazine Title, volume(issue), page range.


A page on a website:
Author name(s). (Year, Month). Title of webpage. Retrieved from Publisher Name website: URL.


• Do not cite an entire website in your References; instead, put its URL in a parenthetical citation.

A work of art:
Creator’s name. (Year). Title of artwork [Medium]. Name of Museum, City, State.