

APA Style – In-Text Citation

APA style is a set of guidelines established by the American Psychological Association for written research. See the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

Basic Format Author-Date Style

In addition to having a references list at the end of your paper, you must give credit to sources that you use within your paper. Usually the author's last name and publication date are enough for the reader to identify the reference in the references list. Examples below show variations of this rule.

Author's name in text

If you cite the author's name in your paper, include the publication year in parentheses after the author's name. Include the page number(s) if referring to a certain part of the work:

In *The Interpretation of Dreams* Freud (2010) found "...the creation of a dream after the event, is nothing other than a form of censoring" (p. 619).

Author's name in reference

If you do not cite the author's name in your paper, include both the author's last name and the publication year in parentheses at the end of the sentence separated by a comma:

The Interpretation of Dreams is considered a landmark work in the field (Freud, 2010).

References

Freud, S. (2010). *The interpretation of dreams: The complete and definitive text*. Basic Books.

No author (cite by title)

When there is no author listed for a work, include the first few words of the title followed by the publication year in parentheses at the end of the sentence. Capitalize all major words in the shortened title. Use quotation marks around titles of articles, chapters, and web pages. Use italics for titles of books and reports:

Mrs. King was key in establishing the King federal holiday ("MLK Scholar," 2020).

References

MLK scholar: Coretta Scott King's sacrifice aided MLK's success. (2020, February 14). *Wyoming Tribune – Eagle*.

Citing two authors

Cite both authors' last names and the publication date every time you refer to the work in your paper.

Authors' names in text: Use the word "and" between the authors' names:

Grace and VanHeuvelen (2019) conclude that we must evaluate changes (p. 207).

Authors' names in reference: In parentheses, use an ampersand (&) to separate the authors' names:

The authors conclude that we must evaluate changes (Grace & VanHeuvelen, 2019, p. 207).

References

Grace, M. K., & VanHeuvelen, J. S. (2019). Occupational variation in burnout among medical staff: Evidence for the stress of higher status. *Social Science & Medicine*, 232, 199-208.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2019.05.007>

Citing three or more authors

Cite the name of the first author and add et al. every time you refer to the work in your paper.

Sperry et al. (2019) found that the verbal environments of children from impoverished backgrounds have been widely misunderstood.

References

Sperry, D. E., Sperry, L. L., & Miller, P. J. (2019). Reexamining the verbal environments of children from different socioeconomic backgrounds. *Child Development*, 90(4), 1303-1306.

Quoting and paraphrasing

When you **quote** a specific part of a source, always include the page numbers:

"Sleep has always been a mysterious and sometimes elusive part of life" (Wise, 2018, p. 192).

When you **paraphrase** a specific part of a source, include page numbers if the source is long or complex and it will help the reader find it:

Wise (2018) discovered that sleep can be mysterious (p. 192).

