APA DOCUMENTATION

You must document whenever you quote, paraphrase, summarize, or use any idea, fact, or figure from source material (unless the material is "common knowledge"). The current form uses in-text parenthetical references in conjunction with an alphabetized References list (on a separate page at the end of your text).

IN-TEXT CITATION

APA style favors the use of the author’s name, followed by the publication date, as part of your sentence, like this:

Strunk (1979) determined latent ..... 

The other common choice is to put both the author’s last name and the year of publication in parentheses at the end of the sentence, like this:

...latent adipose deposits also may be a cause of the problem (Strunk, 1979).

Whichever style you choose, remember that the following information is required for a complete citation:

1. Author’s last name 
2. Year of publication (separated from the author’s name by a comma).
3. Page number is optional for summary or paraphrase, but required when you use a direct quotation:

According to Gray (1996), his study results “were ridiculous” (p.2).

WORKS CITED

The works list appears on a separate page at the end of your paper and is organized as follows:

1. Alphabetically by author’s last name. If no author, alphabetical by first word in title (not “A” or “The”).
2. Double-spaced.
3. First line of each entry even with margin; subsequent lines indented five spaces.

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EXAMPLES

BOOK, no author:  Title. (Year). Place of publication: Publisher.

in-text citation: Grades are not the best measure of student learning (College Bound Series, 1979).

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT: Name of government agency or institute. (Year). Title. (Publication No.). City name: Country of government office.

in-text citation: FOR FIRST CITATION—SPELL OUT AGENCY NAME AND LIST ACRONYM. FOR SECOND CITATION—USE ACRONYM:
Snail darter populations continue to decline (Environmental Protection Agency [EPA], 1988).


in-text citation: Syrdk (1993) says Bulgarian and Russian students have problems with articles.


E-MAIL: USE IN-TEXT CITATION ONLY FOR PERSONAL CORRESPONDANCE (personal e-mail is not a legitimate reference by APA standards, though e-mail journals may be cited in the References list): give name, indicate source type, and give date.

in-text citation: T. Murphy (e-mail, June 28, 1995) suggests infant formula is a poor alternative.


DATABASE: Authors/contributors. (Year). Title of database [identify medium]. (YEAR HERE IF NO AUTHOR). Place of production or publication: Producer, Distributor, and/or Publisher [specify role]

in-text citation: ... over 40% of the population (National Psychological Survey, 1995).


in-text citation: Meyer and Back (1992) remove all doubt about research interests.


INTERVIEW/CLASS LECTURE: Do not cite in References list. Use in-text only: Give name, indicate source type and give date.

in-text citation: J. Reiss indicated that “anthropologists are still debating the reasons for the Neanderthals’ disappearance” (class lecture, May 3, 1990).

PRESENTATION: Name of speaker. (Year and month). Title of paper. Occasion and Location.

in-text citation: Brener (1979) demonstrated the relationship between heart rate and stress.


FILM: Name(s) of primary contributors and (Function of contributors). (Year). Title [medium]. (Available from Name of distributor, Location of distributor).

in-text citation: Maas and Gluck (1979) present a 1970s view of hypnosis.


INDIRECT SOURCES: Author of material you read. (Year). Title of material you read. Title of source, Volume number, inclusive pages of material you read.

in-text citation: Johnson, in contrast, had positive results (as cited in Beatty, 1962)


For information on other sources, please refer to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, the most recent edition possible. The summary here has been based on the 4th edition.

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