

# APA In-Text Citations

All information taken from Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed.

In text citations are required for any material taken from the source, regardless of whether it is quoted, summarized or paraphrased. If you refer to a work in general, only author and year are required. If you summarize or paraphrase from the source, use of page numbers is encouraged but not required. If you quote from a source, page numbers are required.

## Basic In-text Citations

APA style uses the author and date when citing sources in the text. If you include the author's name in the word the sentence, you only need to include the year in parentheses.

## Example

Walker (2000) compared reaction times.....

If you do not use the author's name within the sentence, then put it and the year in parentheses. It should appear immediately after the referenced material, even if that is mid-sentence.

## **Example**

In a recent study of reaction times (Walker, 2000)...

If the parentheses appear at the end of the sentence, the period should come after the final parenthesis.

#### Example

Obese children often engage in limited physical activity (Sothern & Gordon, 2003).

## One Work by Multiple Authors

If an article, book or web site has one or two authors, both of them must appear in the in-text citation.

#### Example

... as has been shown (Joreskog & Sorbom, 1989).

# Direct quotations

For a direct quotation or image, the in-text citation must indicate the page number (if an article or book) or section and/or paragraph number (if a web site) that the quotation came from.

#### **Examples**

(Cheek & Buss, 1981, p. 332) (Myers, 2000, Tone and Attitude Section, para. 5)

## Article

If the work has three, four, or five authors, cite all the authors for the first in-text citation. Subsequent citations need only list the first author and the words "et al."

#### Example

... as this was found to be true (Wasserstein, Zappulla, Rosen, Gerstman, & Rock, 1994).

Subsequent references for this source.: The results were released in 1985 (Wasserstein et al., 1994). If a work has six or more authors, cite the first author and then use et al.

## **Examples**

Davis et al. (1999) found that... According to the study (Davis et al., 1999)

## Unknown Author

If no author is named in the source, mention the title of the source within the sentence, or give the first word or two of the title in parentheses.

#### Example

The body's basal metabolic rate, or BMR, is a measure of its at-rest energy requirement ("Exercise," 2003, p. 214).

## Citing a source found within another source

Give the secondary source that you used in the reference list; in text, name the original work and indicate in the parenthetical reference that it was cited in the secondary source.

## Example

Allport's study (as cited in Nicholson, 2003) found no difference between. . .

