

# Student Learning Centre

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# APA Referencing

(American Psychological Association)

**This brochure is intended as a guide only and is not a comprehensive set of instructions on the use of APA. For more detailed information refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), (2001).**

**Before you commence your assignment you should check with your topic course book for the bibliographic style required in that topic.**

Referencing is a standard convention within the academic and professional communities designed to inform readers of the sources of information used in a piece of written work. There are a number of referencing formats in common use, with certain styles preferred in different academic departments. The APA system is that which is most commonly used in the Social Sciences. You are expected to cite all your references in order to:

- **acknowledge** your sources
- allow the reader to **verify** the data / information
- allow the reader to **consult** your sources independently
- show the reader the depth and breadth of your reading

Most importantly the reader knows how your thinking and reasoning has been formed based on the material you have read. In other words, the reader knows 'where you are coming from'.

References must be provided wherever you **quote** (use exact words), **paraphrase** (use other peoples' ideas using your own words), **summarise** (use main points of someone else's opinions, theories or data) or use other people's data or figures. Your references may be sources of information such as books, periodicals, web sites, newspapers, government reports, legal cases, electronic recordings (CD, DVD, television) or brochures.

There are **TWO** basic components to the APA referencing system that will be covered here:

1. The **citation in the text** of your writing to the source of the information
2. The **reference list** in alphabetical order

**NOTE: The information that follows is taken from**

[http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/social\\_sciences/intext.html#directory](http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/social_sciences/intext.html#directory)

## INTRODUCTION

An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and at times includes a page number in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is presented in **alphabetical order** by authors' last names (or by titles for works without authors). There is a direct connection between the in-text citation and the alphabetical listing as follows:

In your essay, assignment or thesis you could write:

Rumbaugh (1995) reported that "Kanzi's comprehension of over 600 novel sentences of request was very comparable to Alia's; both complied with requests without assistance on approximately 70% of the sentences" (p. 722).

In your reference list you would have:

Rumbaugh, D. (1995). Primate language and cognition: Common ground. *Social Research*, 62, 711-730.

## IN-TEXT CITATION

The APA's in-text citations provide at least the author's last name and the date of publication. For direct quotations and some paraphrases, a page number is given as well. The following models illustrate the APA style of in-text citation.

**NOTE:** In the models in this section, notice that APA style requires the use of the past tense or the present perfect tense in signal phrases introducing cited material: *Smith reported*, *Smith has argued*.

### Basic format for a quotation

Ordinarily, introduce the quotation with a signal phrase that includes the author's last name followed by the date of publication in parentheses. Put the page number (preceded by "p.") in parentheses after the quotation.

Hart (1996) wrote that some primatologists "wondered if apes had learned Language, with a capital L" (p. 109).

If the signal phrase does not name the author, place the author's last name, the year, and the page number in parentheses after the quotation. Use commas between items in the parentheses: (Hart, 1996, p. 109).

### Basic format for a summary or a paraphrase

Include the author's last name and the date either in a signal phrase introducing the material or in parentheses following it. A page number is not required for a summary or a paraphrase, but include one if it would help readers find the passage in a long work (as in item 3).

According to Hart (1996), researchers took Terrace's conclusions seriously, and funding for language experiments soon declined.

Researchers took Terrace's conclusions seriously, and funding for language experiments soon declined (Hart, 1996).

### A work with two authors

Name both authors in the signal phrase or parentheses each time you cite the work. In the parentheses, use "&" between the authors' names; in the signal phrase, use "and."

Greenfield and Savage-Rumbaugh (1990) have acknowledged that...

Kanzi's linguistic development was slower than that of a human child (Greenfield & Savage-Rumbaugh, 1990, p. 567).

### **A work with three to five authors**

Identify all authors in the signal phrase or parentheses the first time you cite the source.

The chimpanzee Nim was raised by researchers who trained him in American Sign Language by moulding and guiding his hands (Terrace, Petitto, Sanders, & Bever, 1979).

In subsequent citations, use the first author's name followed by "et al." in either the signal phrase or the parentheses.

Nim was able to string together as many as 16 signs, but their order appeared quite random (Terrace et al., 1979).

### **A work with six or more authors**

Use only the first author's name followed by "et al." in the signal phrase or the parentheses.

The ape language studies have shed light on the language development of children with linguistic handicaps (Savage-Rumbaugh et al., 1993).

### **Organization as author**

If the author is a government agency or other corporate organization, name the organization in the signal phrase or in the parenthetical citation the first time you cite the source.

According to the Language Research Center (2000), linguistic research with apes has led to new methods of treating humans with learning disabilities such as autism and dyslexia.

If the organization has a familiar abbreviation, you may include it in brackets the first time you cite the source (National Health and Medical Research Council, 2001) and use the abbreviation alone in later citations (NH&MRC, 2001).

### **Two or more works in the same parentheses**

When your parenthetical citation names two or more works, put them in the same order that they appear in the reference list, separated by semicolons.

Researchers argued that the apes in the early language experiments were merely responding to cues (Sebeok & Umiker-Sebeok, 1979; Terrace, 1979).

### **Authors with the same last name**

To avoid confusion, use initials with the last names if your reference list includes two or more authors with the same last name.

Research by E. Smith (1989) revealed that...

### **Personal communication**

Interviews, letters, e-mail, and other person-to-person communications should be cited as follows:

One of Patterson's former aides, who worked with the gorilla Michael, believes that he was capable of joking and lying in sign language (E. Robbins, personal communication, January 4, 2000).

### **An electronic document**

When possible, cite an electronic document as you would any other document (using the author-date style).

R. Fouts and D. Fouts (1999) have explained one benefit of ape language research: It has shown us how to teach children with linguistic disabilities.

Electronic sources may lack authors' names or dates. In addition, they may lack page numbers (required in some citations). Here are APA's guidelines for handling sources without authors' names, dates, or page numbers.

### **Unknown author/Anonymous**

If the author is unknown, mention the work's title in the signal phrase or give the first word or two of the title in the parenthetical citation. Titles of articles and chapters are put in quotation marks; titles of books and reports are italicized.

Chimpanzees in separate areas of Africa differ in a range of behaviors. An international team of researchers has concluded that many of the differing behaviors are cultural, not just responses to varying environmental factors ("Chimps," 1999).

In the rare case when "Anonymous" is specified as the author, treat it as if it were a real name: (Anonymous, 2001). In the list of references, also use the name Anonymous as author.

### **Unknown date**

When the date is unknown, APA recommends using the abbreviation "n.d." (for "no date").

Attempts to return sign-language-using apes to the wild have had mixed results (Smith, n.d.).

### **No page numbers**

APA ordinarily requires page numbers for direct quotations, and it recommends them for summaries or paraphrases from long sources. When an electronic source lacks stable numbered pages, your citation should include—if possible—information that will help readers locate the particular passage being cited.

When an electronic document has numbered paragraphs, use the paragraph number preceded by the symbol ¶ or by the abbreviation "para." (Hall, 2001, ¶5) or (Hall, 2001, para. 5).

If neither a page nor a paragraph number is given and the document contains headings, cite the appropriate heading and indicate which paragraph under that heading you are referring to:

According to Kirby (1999), some critics have accused activists in the Great Ape Project of "exaggerating the supposed similarities of the apes [to humans] to stop their use in experiments" (Shared Path section, para. 6).

Electronic files using portable document format (PDF) often have stable page numbers. For such sources, give the page number in the parenthetical citation.

### **Indirect source**

If you use a source that was cited in another source (a secondary source), name the original source in your signal phrase. List the secondary source in your reference list and include it in your parenthetical citation, preceded by the words "as cited in." In the following example, Booth is the secondary source.

Linguist Noam Chomsky has dismissed the studies on Kanzi with a flippant analogy: "To maintain that Kanzi has language ability is like saying a man can fly because he can jump in the air" (as cited in Booth, 1990, p. A3).

### **Two or more works by the same author in the same year**

When your list of references includes more than one work by the same author in the same year, use lowercase letters ("a," "b," and so on) with the year to order the entries in the reference list. Use those same letters with the year in the citation.

Research by Kennedy (2000b) has yielded new findings about...

# APA REFERENCE LIST

In APA style, the alphabetical list of works cited, which appears at the end of the paper, is titled "References." Observe all details: capitalization, punctuation, use of italics, and so on. Alphabetize entries in the list of references by authors' last names; if a work has no author, alphabetize it by its title. The first element of each entry is important because citations in the text of the paper refer to it and readers will be looking for it in the alphabetized list. The date of publication appears immediately after the first element of the entry.

## Single author

Conran, G. (2001).

## Multiple authors

List up to six authors by last names followed by initials. Use an ampersand (&) instead of "and."

Walker, J. R., & Taylor, T. (1998).

Sloan, F. A., Stout, E. M., Whetten-Goldstein, K., & Liang, L. (2000).

If there are more than six authors, list the first six and "et al." (meaning "and others") to indicate that there are others.

## Organization as author

When the author is an organization, begin with the name of the organization.

American Psychiatric Association. (2000).

## Unknown author

Begin with the work's title. Titles of books are italicized. Titles of articles are neither italicized nor put in quotation marks.

*Oxford essential world atlas.* (1996).

## Two or more works by the same author

Use the author's name for all entries. List the entries by year, the earliest first.

Schlechty, P. C. (1997).

Schlechty, P. C. (2001).

## Two or more works by the same author in the same year

List the works alphabetically by title. In the parentheses, following the year, add "a," "b," and so on. Use these same letters when giving the year in the in-text citation.

Kennedy, C. (2000a). Group dynamics.

Kennedy, C. (2000b). Share-taking in small groups.

# EXAMPLES

## BOOKS

<b>Basic format for a book</b>	Highmore, B. (2001). <i>Everyday life and cultural theory</i> . New York: Routledge.
<b>Edited book</b>	Duncan, G. J., & Brooks-Gunn, J. (Eds.). (1997). <i>Consequences of growing up poor</i> . New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
<b>Edited book with author</b>	Plath, S. (2000). <i>The unabridged journals</i> (K. V. Kukil, Ed.). New York: Anchor.
<b>Translation</b>	Singer, I. B. (1998). <i>Shadows on the Hudson</i> (J. Sherman, Trans.). New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. (Original work published 1957)
<b>Edition other than the first</b>	Helfer, M. E., Keme, R. S., & Drugman, R. D. (1997). <i>The battered child</i> (5th ed.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
<b>Article or chapter in an edited book</b>	Meskill, L. (2001). Archaeologies of identity. In I. Hodder (Ed.), <i>Archaeological theory today</i> (pp. 187-213). Cambridge, England: Polity Press.
<b>Multivolume work</b>	Wiener, P. (Ed.). (1973). <i>Dictionary of the history of ideas</i> (Vols.1-4). New York: Scribner's.

## PERIODICALS

<b>Journal paginated by volume</b>	Morawski, J. (2000). Social psychology a century ago. <i>American Psychologist</i> , 55, 427-431.
<b>Journal paginated by issue</b>	Scruton, R. (1996). The eclipse of listening. <i>The New Criterion</i> , 15(3), 5-13.
<b>Magazine article</b>	Raloff, J. (2001, May 12). Lead therapy won't help most kids. <i>Science News</i> , 159, 292.
<b>Newspaper article</b>	Haney, D. Q. (1998, February 20). Finding eats at mystery of appetite. <i>The Oregonian</i> , pp. A1, A17.
<b>Letter to the editor</b>	Carter, R. (2000, July). Shot in the dark? [Letter to the editor]. <i>Scientific American</i> , 238(1), 8.
<b>Review</b>	Gleick, E. (2000, December 14). The burdens of genius [Review of the book <i>The Last Samurai</i> ]. <i>Time</i> , 156, 171.

## ELECTRONIC SOURCES

<p><b>Article from an online periodical</b></p>	<p>Whitmeyer, J. M. (2000). Power through appointment [Electronic version]. <i>Social Science Research</i> 29(4), 535-555.</p>
<p><b>Article from an online periodical (no printed version)</b></p>	<p>Ashe, D. D., &amp; McCutcheon, L. E. (2001). Shyness, loneliness, and attitude toward celebrities. <i>Current Research in Social Psychology</i>, 6(9). Retrieved July 3, 2001, from <a href="http://www.uiowa.edu/~grpproc/crisp/crisp.6.9.htm">http://www.uiowa.edu/~grpproc/crisp/crisp.6.9.htm</a>.</p>
<p><b>Article from a database</b></p>	<p>Holliday, R. E., &amp; Hayes, B. K. (2001). Dissociating automatic and intentional processes in children's eyewitness memory. <i>Journal of Experimental Child Psychology</i>, 75(1), 1-5. Retrieved February 21, 2001, from Expanded Academic ASAP database (A59317972).</p>
<p><b>Non-periodical Web document</b></p>	<p>Cain, A., &amp; Burris, M. (1999, April). <i>Investigation of the use of mobile phones while driving</i>. Retrieved January 15, 2000, from <a href="http://www.cutr.eng.usf.edu/its/mobile_phone_text.htm">http://www.cutr.eng.usf.edu/its/mobile_phone_text.htm</a>.</p>
<p><b>Non-periodical Web document (no author)</b></p>	<p><i>Evolutionary psychology: A primer</i>. Retrieved July 5, 2001, from the University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for Evolutionary Psychology Web site: <a href="http://www.psych.ucsb.edu/research/cep/primer.html">http://www.psych.ucsb.edu/research/cep/primer.html</a></p>
<p><b>Chapter or section in a Web document</b></p>	<p>Heuer, R. J., Jr. (1999). Keeping an open mind. In <i>Psychology of intelligence analysis</i> (chap. 6). Retrieved July 7, 2001, from <a href="http://www.cia.gov/csi/books/19104/art9.html">http://www.cia.gov/csi/books/19104/art9.html</a>.</p>
<p><b>Online posting</b></p>	<p>Eaton, S. (2001, June 12). Online transactions [Msg 2]. Message posted to <a href="mailto:news://sci.psychology.psychotherapy.moderated">news://sci.psychology.psychotherapy.moderated</a>.</p>
<p><b>Computer program</b></p>	<p>Kaufmann, W. J., III, &amp; Comins, N. F. (1998). <i>Discovering the universe</i> (Version 4.1) [Computer software]. New York: Freeman.</p>

## OTHER SOURCES

<b>Dissertation abstract</b>	Yoshida, Y. (2001). Essays in urban transportation (Doctoral dissertation, Boston College, 2001). <i>Dissertation Abstracts International</i> , 62, 7741A.
<b>Thesis</b>	Trout, N.A. (1996). Spectroscopic, stereochemical and reactivity studies in the adamantane ring system. [PhD thesis]. Adelaide: Flinders University.
<b>Government document</b>	U.S. Census Bureau. (2000). <i>Statistical abstract of the United States</i> . Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
<b>Report from a private organization</b>	American Psychiatric Association. (2000). <i>Practice guidelines for the treatment of patients with eating disorders</i> (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: Author.
<b>Conference proceedings</b>	Schnase, J. L., & Cunniss, E. L. (Eds.). (1995). <i>Proceedings of CSCL'95: The First International Conference on Computer Support for Collaborative Learning</i> . Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
<b>Unpublished conference paper</b>	Melanti, B.G. (1982). Programmers' attitudes toward computer crime: The case in Hong Kong. Paper presented to 10th World Congress of Computer Technology. Kathmandu, 16-21 August.
<b>Motion picture</b>	Soderbergh, S. (Director). (2000). <i>Traffic</i> [Motion picture]. United States: Gramercy Pictures.
<b>Television program</b>	Pratt, C. (Executive Producer). (2001, December 2). <i>Face the nation</i> [Television broadcast]. Washington, DC: CBS News.
<b>Television series</b>	Janows, J. (Executive Producer). (2000). <i>Culture shock</i> [Television series]. Boston: WGBH.
<b>Course book</b>	School of Humanities, Flinders University (2003). <i>Professional English course book</i> , semester 2. [ENGL 1001]. Adelaide: Flinders University.

### NOTE:

If you still have trouble with referencing, you can direct your referencing question online to:

<http://webct.flinders.edu.au:80/public/STLL0001/>