

## How Should You Document Sources Following APA Guidelines?

The APA guidelines specify two types of citations—one goes in the text of your paper and the other at the end. The following example illustrates a reference citation in the text of a paper.

Some researchers have suggested that infants and young children store memories less efficiently than adults because specific neural structures required for memory storage have not yet matured in children at these ages (Nadel and Zola-Morgan, 1984).

In this example the writer informs us that the theory she describes was proposed in a paper by Nadel and Zola-Morgan, published in 1984. Note that the entire citation in this example—both the authors' names and the year of publication of the article cited—is in parentheses. Depending on how a sentence is constructed, all or part of the citation may be placed in parentheses. For example, the sentence above could also be phrased this way:

Nadel and Zola-Morgan (1984) have suggested that infants and young children . . .

In this example only the article's year of publication is inside the parentheses; the authors' names are included as part of the main sentence.

For articles with one or two authors, use either of these methods of citing the source. For articles with three or more authors, you should list all the authors in the first citation; in subsequent citations, however, you usually need to cite only the first author, followed by the abbreviation "et al." The following examples illustrate this point:

In a famous case study of amnesia, Milner, Corkin, and Teuber (1968) describe . . . **(first citation of this article)**

The results of this study agree with those of Milner et al. (1968) . . . **(second citation of this article)**

At the end of your paper, you should give your reader the full citation for every source you have referred to in the body of your paper. These references should include everything that a reader would need to look up your source. These citations go on a "References" page that immediately follows the text of your paper.

Below are examples of citations of the most commonly used types of sources. If you need to cite a source that isn't illustrated here, consult the complete APA Manual. Note that the first line of each entry is indented, and that **these entries should be double-spaced; we have single-spaced them here only to save room.**

### Books and Book Chapters

#### An entire book:

Springer, S. P., & Deutsch, G. (1985). *Left brain, right brain* (Rev. ed.). New York: W. H. Freeman.

Brand, M., & Harnish, R. M. (Eds.). (1986). *The representation of knowledge and belief*. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press.

The first example shows how to cite a revised edition; the second, an edited volume. Note that: (1) all lines except the first are indented; (2) each section of the entry ends with a period followed by a single space; (3) in a list of authors an ampersand (the symbol &), rather than the word *and*, is used before the last author's name; (4) in an article with several authors, all authors' names are inverted; and (5) only the first word of the book's or chapter's title is capitalized.

#### An anonymous book:

*The American heritage dictionary* (2nd college ed.). (1991). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

#### A chapter in an edited volume:

Nadel, L., & Zola-Morgan, S. (1984). Infantile amnesia: A neurobiological perspective. In M. Moscovitch (Ed.), *Infant memory* (pp. 145-172). New York: Plenum.

Note that while the names of the authors of the chapter are inverted, the name of the editor of the volume is not inverted.

### Articles in Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers

Citations for journal and magazine articles follow the same general form as citations of books, with the same sections: (1) author name(s), last name(s) followed by initial(s); (2) year of publication, in parentheses; (3) full title of article: capitalize only the first word and don't italicize it or put quotation marks around it; (4) publication information, including the title of the periodical and journal (spelled out and italicized) and the volume (also italicized) and page numbers (not italicized).

A journal with continuous pagination (i.e., the page numbers in one issue begin where those in the previous issue left off):

Milner, B., Corkin, S., & Teuber, H.-L. (1986). Further analysis of the hippocampal syndrome: 14-year follow-up study of H. M. *Neuropsychologia*, 6, 215-234.

### A journal that paginates each issue separately:

Hubel, D. H., & Wiesel, T. N. (1979).  
Brain mechanisms of vision.  
*Scientific American*, 241(3), 150-164.

Note that in this example only the volume number (241) is italicized; it is followed (with no space) by the issue number in parentheses (3), then a comma.

### An article in a magazine:

Steinberg, J. A. (1991, March). Putting  
your business on the map. *MacUser*, 7,  
pp. 158-163, 166-167.

Note that in this example the article is not published on continuous pages; instead, it appears on pages 158 through 163, and then again on pages 166 and 167.

### An article in a newspaper:

Clark County schools teaching sign,  
integrating deaf and hearing  
students. (1996, January 29). *Indiana  
Daily Student*, p. 4.

Because no author is listed for this article, the citation begins with the title and would be alphabetized under the first significant word. If an author had been listed, the year and date in parentheses would be listed after the author's name, as in other periodical citations. In the text, this source would be referred to in the text by a shortened version of the title—"Clark County schools (1996)."

## Citation Forms for Electronic Media

### Internet article based on a print source:

Swanson, H. L. (1999). What develops in  
working memory? A life span  
perspective [Electronic version].  
*Developmental Psychology*, 35, 986-  
1000.

In this example, the online version and the print version are identical; if you think the online version differs from the print version, include the URL and the date you accessed the article.

### Multiple-page document created by a private organization:

*Character education: The role of  
parents, teachers, and the community.*  
(n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2001,  
from National Parent Information  
Network Web site:  
[http://npin.org/library/2001/  
n00584/n00584.html](http://npin.org/library/2001/n00584/n00584.html).

Note that this citation includes the title of the document, the date on which the website was accessed, the name of the organization that is the source of this document, the document, and the URL. The name of the organization is provided after the retrieval date for documents that are part of larger, more complex Web sites, such as those for universities or government agencies.

---

For help at any stage of the writing process:

### Writing Tutorial Services

Ballantine Hall 206  
Indiana University  
855-6738

[www.indiana.edu/~wts/](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/)

See our website for hours, times, and locations

---



## Citing Sources in APA Style

When writing a research paper, you often need to refer to the work of other people—to describe their research or idea, or to quote them, for example. Whenever you refer to, paraphrase, or quote the theories or research of other people, you need to indicate in your paper the source of your information. Thoroughly documenting your sources has a number of advantages; for example, you help your reader to check the accuracy of the source and the credibility of the source itself. In addition, you demonstrate your knowledge of the literature in your area. Finally, you enable your reader to learn more about particular theories or findings mentioned in your paper.

## Which Documentation Style Should You Use?

You have several different styles of documentation to choose from when citing sources. In most disciplines a specific set of guidelines is accepted as the standard. **For any paper which requires documentation, however, you should first ask your instructor or professor which style you should use.** The following guidelines and examples are from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition, published by the American Psychological Association or APA. This manual is commonly used in courses in the social and natural sciences here at IU.

Revised 7/8/04