

APA Formatting

Purpose: Many social science instructors will ask for sources used in papers to be documented with the American Psychological Association (APA) system of in-text citations and references. This is a comprehensive list of common sources that are cited in APA papers with examples showing how to cite the sources correctly.

1. Single Author

Author: Last name, first initial. Year (in parentheses). *title* (italicized or underlined). Capitalize only the first word). Place of publication: publisher.

Example: Egeland, J. (2008). *A billion lives: An eyewitness report from the frontlines of humanity*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.

List up to seven authors by last names followed by initials. Use an ampersand (&) before the name of the last author.

Example: Musick, M.A., & Wilson, J. (2007). *Volunteers: A social profile*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

When there are eight or more authors, list the first six authors followed by three ellipsis (...) dots and the last author's name.

2. Organization as author

Organization name. (year). Title (book). Edition number. Place of publication. Organization as author and publisher.

Example: American Psychiatric Association. (1994). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (4th ed). Washington, DC.

For works with unknown authors, begin with the work's title.

3. Article in an online journal

Author: last name, first initial(s). (year). Article title. Journal title, volume, pages. DOI (if there is no DOI, include the URL for the journal's home page).

Example: Whitmeyer, J. M. (2000). Power through appointment. *Social Science Research*, 29, 535-555. doi:10.1006/ssre.2000.0680

4. Report or long document from a Web site

Author(s): Last name, first initial(s). (Online pub. Date). Document title. URL

Example: Cain, A., & Burris, M. (1999, April). *Investigation of the use of mobile phones while driving*. Retrieved from http://www.cutr.eng.usf.edu/its/mobile_phone_text.htm

5. Dissertation from a database.

Hymel, K. M. (2009). *Essays in urban economics* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (AAT 3355930)

In-Text Citation

To avoid accidental plagiarism, it's important to give credit to the source student writers are borrowing material from in the reference page of their work and in the text itself.

Original Source: In an effort to seek the causes of this disturbing trend, experts have pointed to a range of important potential contributors to the rise in childhood obesity that are unrelated to media – Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, “The Role of Media in Childhood Obesity” (2004). p.1

In order to avoid plagiarizing this content, either put quotation marks around the material or paraphrase it.

Quotation Marks: According to Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (2004), “...experts have pointed to a range of important potential contributors to the rise in childhood obesity that are unrelated to media” (p. 1).

Paraphrase: A report by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (2004) described sources other than media for the childhood obesity crisis (p. 1).

Notice: It's unnecessary to quote the entirety of the original content. Student writers should use only what they need from a quote to enforce their theses.