

APA In-text Citations

The purpose of using in-text citations is to give credit to the author of the information you are using in your paper. They are a way to keep your reader informed of where you found your ideas and allow the reader to refer back to the original source for more information.

APA style follows the author-date method. This means that the author's last name and the year of publication for the source appear in the text. If no author is given, use the title of the work in the author spot. A complete reference for each in-text citation must appear in the reference page at the end of the paper.

If you are **directly quoting** from a work, include the author, year of publication and the page number, if available. Introduce the quotation with a signal phrase or put the author and date in parenthesis at the end of the sentence. Quotations longer than 40 words are put in a freestanding block of lines, omitting the quotation marks.

Examples:

"Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (Jones, 1998).

According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p.199).

Jones's (1998) study found the following:

Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time citing sources. This difficulty could be attributed to the fact that many students failed to purchase a style manual or to ask their teacher for help. (p.199)

If you are **paraphrasing** an idea from another work, you only have to make reference to the author and year of publication. Page numbers are not required but are encouraged to help the reader find the passage.

Examples:

According to Jones (1998), APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners.

APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners (Jones, 1998, p. 199).