

APA References

This guideline was written to handle the growing confusion for students regarding APA format due to increasing exposure via the internet. There is only one official APA manual, but it is often updated over time when needs arise. When an update comes out, it becomes the official APA manual governing the writing of science and psychology papers. However, the older versions can still be found and are often still used by many institutions. Furthermore, researchers and professors use variations of the APA style to suit their needs and publication demands (for example, Chicago Style, IEEE Style, AAA Style; not to mention MLA Style used for English papers). The Thames Valley District School Board has an online-only version, On Your Own, based on the official fifth APA manual (and includes MLA and Chicago Style). The board also still supports an older version of On Your Own, available online and in print, which is based on the fourth edition of the official APA manual. Therefore, it is understandable that much confusion exists as to which style is the correct style to use.

Clarity and consistency are most important with APA Style so we will use the following guideline in my class as our definitive manual to write papers and how they will be marked when APA formatting is required. My goal is to simplify APA for high school students, so I may circumvent some of the rules just to make it easier as I am only trying to help you learn how to make a proper science report; I am not creating a complete guideline as one already exists (the official APA manual). Therefore, I have outlined the major, most commonly needed, instructions but there are numerous rules to cover the immense variety of situations that can exist, so if a situation is not covered here, refer to the **official APA guide** posted on my website.

Definition

A reference page lists all the sources used to write a research paper. These sources provided the information that guided understanding of a topic or concept. The quality of the references strengthens the credibility of the information in the report. Each reference provides the necessary information to enable the reader to find the source material to check the integrity and veracity of the conclusions cited within in the report.

Placement

References are included on a separate page so it can be removed and to verify citations while reading the report. The title of this separate page is References. MLA uses the title Work Cited because MLA relies on quotes; whereas, APA relies on interpretation of source information to present logical conclusions and connections from source information. The difference is substantial.

Format

References are presented in alphabetical order according to the first author's last name and alphabetized letter by letter to distinguish similar names noting that "nothing precedes something". This includes any prefixes but not punctuation and if a name includes numbers, apply numbers chronologically. If two authors are identical, arrange the references chronologically. References with the same first author and different second or third authors are arranged alphabetically according to the first different authors (again, "nothing precedes something"). If reference authors have the same surname, but different initials, use the initials to arrange the references. For example:

<p>Brown, J. R., precedes Browning, A. R., even though i precedes j in the alphabet Singh, Y., precedes Singh Siddhu, N. Lopez, M. E., precedes Lopez de Molina, G. Ibn Abdulaziz, T., precedes Ibn Nidal, A. K. M. Girard, J. B., precedes Girard-Perregaux, A. S. Villafuerte, S. A., precedes Villa-Lobos, J. MacArthur B., precedes McAllister A. MacNeil, A., precedes M'Carthy A. Macomber, J., II, precedes Macomber, J., III. Upenieks, V. (2003). precedes Upenieks, V. (2005). Alleyne, R. L. (2001). precedes Alleyne, R. L., & Evans, A. J. (1999). Hayward, D., Firsching, A., & Brown, J. (1999). precedes Hayward, D., Firsching, A., & Smigel, J. (1999). Mathur, A. L., precedes Mathur, S. E.,</p>
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Finally, references are listed with reverse indenting which means do not indent the first line, but indent all other lines per reference. References must be double spaced between and within each reference. This is one of the most abused rules in papers but we are going to go with complete double spacing for consistency. For example:

Capra, F. (2002). The turning point. Retrieved from

<http://www.wplus.net/pp/Julia/Capra/CONTENTS.htm>

Cameron, J. A. (2000). Test and evaluation: The changing nature of our scientific knowledge. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society: Annual Meeting, Santa Monica, 6, 565-568.*

One final note: all references must be used as citations and all citations must have a reference. Discrepancies between citations and references represent signification errors in omission or integrity.

Structure

The specific structure of a reference depends on the type of reference. However, I am trying to simplify your work and create consistency. Also, I am only addressing the most common types of references high school students use to construct their research papers. Refer to the official APA Manual (posted) for other types of references.

All authors are listed by surname written in full while all other names are only included as initials. Keep hyphens within surnames or between initials after the period for the first initial (Lamour, J.-B.). Use commas to separate authors, to separate surnames and initials, and to separate initials and suffixes and use an ampersand (&) before the last author. If a paper has Anonymous as the author, then use Anonymous making sure the citation in the body of the paper is also Anonymous. In a reference to a work with no author, move the title to the author position, before the date ending with a period. If there are only editors then use the editors as the authors, but include (Ed.) or (Eds.) after the last editor's name and end with a period.

The next component is always the date of publication written in brackets followed by a period. If there is no date, then use (n.d.) which also is used in the citation in the body of the report; they must match.

The next component is the title of the article or chapter title for books. It is treated like a sentence so only capitalize the first word (except for names or other items that would be capitalized in any sentence) and use all appropriate punctuation. This is not italicized. If the entire book was used, omit the chapter title. Include the chapter title for the book even if only a small section was used.

Now, if applicable add the title of the Periodical, Journal, newsletter, magazine or book. State this title with full title capitalization except for books and use italics. For books, enclose additional information given on the publication for its identification and retrieval (for example, edition, report number, volume number and page numbers if the entire book was not used) in brackets immediately after the title. Do not use any punctuation between the title and the bracketed information and do not italicize this bracketed information. For book page numbers, use pp. #-#.

For Periodicals or Journals, include additional information about the publication for its complete identification and retrieval. Typically, this is the volume number followed by the pages of the article. A coma follows the Periodical or Journal title and the volume number followed by the pages with a hyphen and end with a period. Although the volume is italicized, the pages are not italicized. If the volume has an issue number, include it with the volume by placing the issue number in brackets. The issue number and its brackets are not italicized.

For books, end with the publication information. This includes the location comprised of the city name in full followed by a coma and the state or province abbreviation followed by a colon (:) and finally the name of the publisher ending with a period.

For electronic sources, after the title of the article (which may be the web page title) include Retrieved from and then the complete url address. It does not end with any punctuation. The url is not a link; that is, it is not live so you must remove the hyperlink and make it just regular text.

Examples

1. Journal Articles

Cameron, J. A. (2000). Test and evaluation: The changing nature of our scientific knowledge. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society: Annual Meeting, Santa Monica, 6*, 565-568.

Emery, R. (2001). Is biology more than coded molecules? *The Skeptical Inquirer, 25*, 74-75.

Herbst-Damm, K. L., & Kulik, J. A. (2005). Volunteer support, marital status, and the survival times of terminally ill patients. *Health Psychology, 24*, 225-229.

2. Books

Haybron, D. M. (2008). Philosophy and the science of subjective well-being. *The science of subjective well-being* (pp. 17-43). New York, NY: Guilford Press.

Shotton, M. A. (1989). *Computer addiction? A study of computer dependency*. London, England: Taylor & Francis.

Vanden Bos, G. R. (Ed.). (2007). *APA dictionary of psychology*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

3. Online Sources

Freud, S. (1953). The method of interpreting dreams: An analysis of a specimen dream. *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (pp . 96-121). Retrieved from <http://books.google.com/books>

Heuristic. (n.d.). *Merriam-Webster's online dictionary* (11th ed.). Retrieved from <http://www.m-w.com/dictionary/heuristic>

University of Groningen. (2002). Holism and reductionism in biology. Retrieved from <http://www.ub.rug.nl/bib/home.html>

