

APA In-Text Citations for Print, Online, and Audiovisual Sources

Handout courtesy of Angela Gulick

This handout provides basic templates for documenting the most common types of sources according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition.

A Note about Page Numbers when Directly Quoting vs. Paraphrasing

According to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition “When quoting directly, always provide the author, year, and page number of the quotation in the in-text citation in either parenthetical or narrative format. . . . If the work does not have page numbers, provide another way for the reader to locate the quotation” (p. 270). The manual also states, “Although it is not required to provide page or paragraph number in the citation for a paraphrase, you may include one in addition to the author and year when it would help interested readers locate the relevant passage within a long or complex work” (p. 269).

The Writing Lab recommends that you check with your instructor whether you should include page/paragraph numbers with paraphrases.

In the APA system, an in-text citation consists of the following details: author, date of publication or broadcast, page number/paragraph number/other location information.

Author

- **Author(s) Last Name(s):** If presenting the information in your sentence, use the word “and” between the authors’ names. If presenting the information in parentheses at the end of your information, use “&” between the authors’ names.
 - Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____.
 - Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021).

If you have three or more authors, cite the source by the first listed author’s last name followed by “et al.” which stands for “and others.”

 - Wendt et al. (2022) discovered _____.
 - One study found out that _____ (Wendt et al., 2022).

- **Group Author:** If the source is written by a group such as a government agency, school, business, or association, use the group’s name as the author. You can abbreviate well-known groups:
 - According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA, 2020) _____.
 - One government agency claims _____ (FDA, 2020).
- **No Named Author (Person or Group):** If you cannot find any author, replace the author’s name with the title of the source. If the title is long, you can shorten the title to the first three or four words. If the title is italicized on the References page, italicize it here. If the title is not italicized on the References page, enclose the title in “quotation marks” here. Capitalize all the major words in the title even if those same words are lowercased on the References page.
 - “Raising Emotionally Healthy Children” (2019) argues _____.
 - Child development experts argue _____ (“Raising Emotionally Healthy Children,” 2019).
 - *Contemplations on a Windy Day* (2022) asserts _____.
 - One author claims _____ (*Contemplations on a Windy Day*, 2022).
- **Audiovisual Source:** For an audiovisual source such as a film, television show, video, or podcast, use the name of the uploader/creator followed by the year.
 - YouTube personality Magpie333 (2021) asserts _____.
 - One popular Youtuber claims _____ (Magpie333, 2021).

Date of Publication or Broadcast

- Put the year in parentheses like this: (2022).
- If there is no year of publication, put (n.d.) in parentheses which stands for “no date.”

Page Numbers, Paragraph Numbers, Other Location Information

- When quoting from a single page with a pre-printed page number, use “p” + number.
 - Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (p. 16).
 - Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, p. 16).
- When quoting from multiple pages with pre-printed page numbers, use “pp.” + numbers.
 - Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (pp. 16-17).
 - Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, pp. 16-17).
- When quoting from discontinuous pages, use a comma between the page numbers.
 - Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (pp. 16, 19).
 - Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, pp. 16, 19).
- When quoting from a source without pre-printed page numbers, provide another way for the reader to locate the quote such as the following:

Paragraph Number: Count paragraphs manually if they are not numbered. Use the abbreviation “para.” for one paragraph and “paras.” for multiple paragraphs.

- Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (para. 4).
- Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, para. 4).

- Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (paras. 4-5).
- Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, paras. 4-5).

Heading or Section: Use the heading or section title closest to your quoted information.

- Gulick and Hostager (2021) claim _____ (Lupus section).
- Researchers discovered _____ (Gulick & Hostager, 2021, Lupus section).

Let’s look at some examples.

Example One – Source with one author

List just the author’s last name.

Somers (2009) contends that the body “requires a constant supply of all essential nutrients and has developed a complex system for storing nutrients for later use” (p. 18). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

OR

The body “requires a constant supply of all essential nutrients and has developed a complex system for storing nutrients for later use” (Somers, 2009, p. 18). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

Example Two – Source with two authors

List both authors’ last names in the order they appear in the source.

Wilson and Jenkins (2006) claim, “While more flattering representations of Blacks and Latinos have recently found their way into the marketplace, the same cannot be said for Asians and Native Americans” (pp. 33-34). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

OR

As one article pointed out, even though increased “flattering representations of Blacks and Latinos have recently found their way into the marketplace, the same cannot be said for Asians and Native Americans” (Wilson & Jenkins, 2006, pp. 33-34). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

Example Three – Source with three or more authors

List just the first author's last name and then "et al." which stand for "and others."

Opper et al. (2008) write that "when bulb seedlings appear, containers need to be moved to sunny places and watered regularly" (p. 115). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

OR

Researchers have discovered "when bulb seedlings appear, containers need to be moved to sunny places and watered regularly" (Opper et al., 2008, p. 115). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

Example Four – Article with association, business, educational, or government author

Use the agency's name as the author. If the abbreviation of the agency is well known, you can use that after the first citation which explains what the abbreviation stands for.

The United States Department of Labor (USDL, 2004) discusses that whistle blowing, defined as "going public with potentially damaging information," can have adverse physical, security, and mental health effects (pp. 26-27). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

OR

Government officials believe that whistle blowing, defined as "going public with potentially damaging information," can have mental health effects (USDL, 2004, pp. 26-27). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

Example Five – Article with no named author (person or group)

Use the first few words of the source's title as it is listed on the References list.

"A Troubling Look" (2001) discusses the emergence of an increasing problem in this country, stating, "The elderly have become victims of con games and scams that often take away entire life savings (p. 29). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

OR

The emergence of an increasing problem in this country has become apparent; researchers contend, "The elderly have become victims of con games and scams that often take away entire life savings ("A Troubling Look," 2001, p. 29). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

Example Six – Two or more sources by the same author published in the same year

For two sources written by the same author and published in the same year, provide the author's last name and assign each source a letter of the alphabet like below. Include the corresponding letter with each source on the References list. Then provide the year of publication and end sentence with the page number.

Henderson (2009a) writes, "Playing a television mother on *The Brady Bunch* all those years made me never want to have children of my own" (p. 16). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

Furthermore, Henderson (2009b) stated, "The idealized television families of the late 1960s and 1970s contrasted sharply with the families in *The Simpsons*, *Roseanne*, and *Modern Family*" (p. 18). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**

OR

One famous television actress writes, "Playing a television mother on *The Brady Bunch* all those years made me never want to have children of my own" (Henderson, 2009a, p. 16). >> **See above if source does not have a page number.**

As one "perfect" mother stated, "The idealized television families of the late 1960s and 1970s contrasted sharply with the families in *The Simpsons*, *Roseanne*, and *Modern Family*" (Henderson, 2009b, p. 18). >> **See page 2 if source does not have a page number.**