

Examples of reference and citation. Illustrates Web pages, books, journals, newspapers.

APA Helps

Examples of APA Reference and Citations

We'll start with a page that lacks an author. This page is titled "Seven Years War" and it's put up by History mania. So we'll use "Seven Years War" as the article title. The year of publication is 2005, we found that on the site. History mania is the larger website containing the page. I give the date it was retrieved so if the page changes later, we know what it was like October 31, 2012. And then we provide the web address. Citation in the text gives the first few words of the title and the year of publication. If we were actually quoting material, we would additionally need to follow the year of publication with a "comma space p-a-r-a period space and the paragraph number" to indicate where in the article we obtained the quoted material.

Here we have a website by Jerry Pournelle. Chaos Manor Musings, similar information, notice this has a title and subtitle, the first letter of the first word of a subtitle is capitalized just like the first letter of a title – so the "t" in "the" is capitalized. We have the retrieval date and web address. The citation would use the author's last name and the year of publication, don't include initials, don't include month or day of publication.

A book with a single author has the publication year, the title, the subtitle, place of publication, and the name of the publisher. The citation would be the author's last name and the year of publication. If the quotation occurred in the citation, then you would have "comma, after the 2005, space p period and the page number" and all of that would be in parenthesis.

The reason why an edition statement needs to be included if it exists is that different editions of the book have different page numbers given so that if you are citing a specific page that may change with different editions.

A book with a corporate author has similarities with other works, but when it comes to works that are published by the organization, you use author as the publisher rather than repeat the whole name of the association a second time. Also, if you have an organization or association that has an acronym that's well known, you can shorten citations after the first citation, by giving the full name of the association, then in brackets or parenthesis the shortened version / acronym. Thereafter you can use the shortened acronym as illustrated.

Signed article in an encyclopedia occurs when a person writes an article, puts their name on it, and it appears in a larger work, often edited by a second individual. In this case, the article on Moses was written by Allis, but it appeared in Tenney's Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible, Volume 4, pp. 279-295. Having all of this information allows OCLS to obtain this particular range of pages for this book from another library. The citation for this very long reference is small, again it's the author's last name, year of publication.

For a journal, author, title of the work, the title of the journal, and the volume number, issue number, page number. Note that italics are used to denote the volume number, parenthesis to enclose the issue number, and a page number concludes the reference. There's no labeling that says volume, issue, page. Citation: author, year.

If you have an article that does not have an author, from whatever source, use the first words of the title of the article in place of the author. Then, the date of publication, name of the journal, volume, issue, and page range. In the citation you've got the title of the work and the date of publication.

Newspaper article

In this place, you have an author, the date of publication, title of the article, name of the newspaper, and a page range. Newspaper page ranges often include an alphabetic prefix to indicate a section of the newspaper. Citation again would be the author and the year.

A DOI can occur in journals. This nursing journal has the DOI provided actually in the paperwork. You have the authors' last names and their initials in the reference, year of publication, title and subtitle, name of the journal, volume number, issue number, and the page range, and the DOI. Note that the DOI is not capitalized. The citation would have the authors' last names and the year of publication.

Some websites give a draft of the APA. For example, Purdue OWL indicates you can cite information using this format. Some of this is not accurate, however. This corporate author website, it's the date of publication, the title of the specific page that it's retrieved on a particular date, and the web address that it's from. The citation would give the author information and the year of publication.

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