Correctly using In Text Citations under APA 6.0 Style

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Includes excerpts from Simon (2011), *Dissertation and Scholarly Research: Recipes for Success*. Seattle, WA: Dissertation Success LLC

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When you conduct scholarly research you review other studies by other researchers and reference them in your research paper, dissertation, or thesis. It is essential that you give credit where credit is due, and this is accomplished through proper in text citations. If the information is not common or general knowledge, and did not come from your own head, then the information needs to be cited. This is particularly important when you are making an inference or general statement of fact. In most cases, it is preferred to over cite than to under cite so as to avoid accusations of plagiarism. When you make statements of general knowledge, such as "Steve Jobs was the CEO of Apple", referencing is not needed. If your audience consists of educators they are likely to be aware of the term constructivism, so you do not need a reference when referring to a teachers' style as constructivist. Similarly, a physician writing for other physicians will not need to reference how the circulatory system works.

APA style requires the use of the past tense or present perfect tense when referring to a study or published material. For example: Smith (2012) found or Smith (2012) has found. When we cite a source using APA 6th formatting, we use only the author's last name and year of publication either inside parentheses (Smith, 2012), or just mention the authors' name and then put the publication year in parentheses the first time a source is cited in *each paragraph*. We do

not use first names, initials, or titles such as Mr. Ms, Dr, etc. We do *not* use the title of the article or book, and we do not use a URL in an in-text citation. The period comes after the parentheses in the citation if it is made at the end of a sentence (Simon, 2012). If there are 2 more authors use the ampersand (&) only when the citation is inside ( ), such as (Simon & Goes, 2012).

If you are directly quoting a source, you will need to include the author, year of publication, and the page or paragraph number for the reference (preceded by "p." or para). You can introduce the quotation with a signal phrase that includes the author's last name followed by the date of publication in parentheses. For example: According to Goes (2011), "Students often had difficulty in using APA style, particularly when it is their first time" (p. 20).

When multiple studies support an idea, you include multiple citations inside the same set of parentheses. Within parentheses, alphabetize the author last names as they would appear in the reference list and separate them by semicolons. In running text, you can address studies in whatever order you wish. For example:

Studies of teaching young children to read before pre-school have produced mixed results (Allen, Waite, & Marx, 2004; Gibson, 2012; Sinon & Milke, 2010).

It is important to be crystal clear regarding what you are citing. Although it is not necessary to use an in-text citation at the end of every sentence in a paragraph when the author was identified in the beginning, it is important to let the reader know that you did not originate the thoughts. For example:

Gold (2008) provided several recommendations regarding dealing with bullies. The highlights of Gold's recommendations include professional development workshops and a special curriculum to deal with bullying behavior. Recognition of the problem and

heeding to the needs of the victim are paramount (Gold, 2006). This is in concert with Coronato's (2012) suggestions of being proactive with all forms of bullying.

Paraphrasing versus Quoting

All sources that are cited or quoted in the text must appear in the reference list at the end of the paper, in alphabetical order. If you are referring to an idea from a source but *not* directly quoting the material, or making reference to an entire book, article or other work, you only have to make reference to the author and the year of publication and not the page number in your in-text reference.

Unlike a summary that contains only the main idea(s) and supporting primary details of a passage, a paraphrase reframes and recomposes the idea of someone else's composition into your own voice. It begins at the opening of a passage and then proceeds idea by idea to the end of the passage, including all relevant concepts.

Paraphrasing in Two Stages

Spatt (2005) recommended paraphrasing in two stages: first, *a literal paraphrase*, and second, *a free paraphrase*.

The Literal Paraphrase

The *literal paraphrase* focuses on specific words or short phrases in the original text that may be vague or ambiguous. Synonyms are used in place of obscure words and phrases.

The Free Paraphrase

The *free paraphrase* begins where the literal paraphrase leaves off, *translating* each complete idea into your own style or voice.

Drafting the Paraphrase

You will often find it necessary to compose several drafts--maybe five or six revisions for even short passages--before you have completely reframed all ideas into a consistent voice or style. Paraphrase is the pattern most frequently used in introducing ideas from secondary sources like scholarly articles, books, magazines, and online resources. Just as you would a quotation or even a casual reference to a source, paraphrases must be both cited and documented according to APA style.

If you are directly quoting from a source, you will need to include the author, year of publication, and the page or paragraph number for the reference (preceded by "p." or para). Introduce the quotation with a signal phrase that includes the author's last name followed by the date of publication in parentheses. Here is an example:

According to Goes (2011) "Learning how to properly cite a source can be challenging" (p. 20). Goes (2011) found that "students often had difficulty using APA style" (p. 21); what implications does this have for teachers? If the author is not named in a signal phrase, place the author's last name, the year of publication, and the page number in parentheses after the quotation. "Students often have difficulty using APA style" (Goes, 2011, p. 21).

You should use long direct quotations very sparingly, and only if there is a real need to present the idea in the original author's exact words. Otherwise paraphrasing can be both more efficient and effective. When you do need to use direct quotations, place quotations longer than

40 words in a free-standing block of typewritten lines, and omit quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line, indented 1/2 inch from the left margin, i.e., in the same place you would begin a new paragraph. Type the entire quotation on the new margin, and indent the first line of any subsequent paragraph within the quotation 1/2 inch from the new margin. Maintain double-spacing throughout. The parenthetical citation should come after the closing punctuation mark. Here is an example:

Students have faced challenges in learning how to use APA formatting. When discussing the challenges, Goes (2012) stated:

It is important to italicize the title of a book, journal, brochure, or report when the source is referenced in the body of a paper. Underlining of text is never permitted in an APA 6th formatted document.   Non-periodical titles like books and book titles have all important words capitalized in the text citations, but these same book titles do not have all important words capitalized in the reference list. (p. 30)

DOI Names

Most electronic journals now require a DOI name - a *digital identifier* for any *object of intellectual property*. A DOI name provides a means of identifying a piece of intellectual property on a digital network and associating it with related current data in a structured extensible way. DOI names are considered a *bar code for intellectual property*; similar to a physical bar code you find at the supermarket or in retail stores.

A DOI name differs from commonly used Internet pointers to material such as the URL, because it identifies an object as a first-class entity, not simply the place where the object is

located. A place you can go to find a DOI for free is at: http://www.crossref.org/guestquery . Here are two examples (NOTE: All citations must be in the Hanging Indent Format with the first line flush to the left margin and all other lines indented):

Bales, R. F. (1950). A set of categories for the analysis of small group interactions. *American Sociological Association, 15*, 257-263. doi:10.2307/2086790

Jones, B. (2008). Performance appraisal interviews: Preference organization in assessment sequences. *Journal of Business Communication, 45*, 408-429. doi:10.1177/0021943608319382

Use the journal's home page URL (or web address) if there is no DOI. This may require a web search to locate the journal's home page. There is no period at the end of web address. Break a long URL before the punctuation.

Elder, G. H. (1994). Time, human agency, and social change: Perspectives on the life course. *Social Psychology Quarterly, 57*(1), 4-15. Retrieved from http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/pb/thornberry/socy7004/pdfs/Time,%20Human%20Agency, %20and%20Social%20Change%20.pdf

Reference

Spatt, B. (1983). *Writing from Sources*. New York: St. Martins Press.

Also check out this Youtube for basic information about in-text citations:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfIpTZ50Ly4&feature=related