

APA 7th Edition: In-Text Citations

When to cite your paper

- Cite works that you have read and ideas that you have incorporated into your writing.
- Provide citations for facts, figures and ideas that are not common knowledge.
- You do not need to cite things that are common sense or factual (i.e. “the sun is yellow”, “Paris is the capital city of France”).

Avoiding Plagiarism

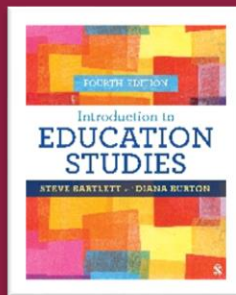
- By citing your work correctly and using good academic practices, you will avoid plagiarism. Here is APA’s definition of plagiarism:

Plagiarism: “is the act of presenting the words, ideas, or images of another as your own; it denies authors or creators of content the credit they are due. Whether deliberate or unintentional, plagiarism violates ethical standards in scholarship” (American Psychological Association, 2020, p. 174).

Using Sources

- **What do we mean by using sources in your work?** A source is information or material that you use in your papers. Sources help you to support your points and provide useful research to strengthen your papers. Examples of sources include:

- Books
- Journal articles
- Newspapers
- Websites
- Reports



In-text Formats

Narrative Citations (Paraphrase)

According to Smith (2020) it is important for students to develop their critical thinking skills in order to be autonomous in their learning.

Narrative Citations (Quote)

According to Smith (2020), “Once students have demonstrated competency in their critical thinking, they are able to be successful independent learners” (p. 45).

Parenthetical Citations

It has been argued that it is important for students to develop their critical thinking skills in order to be autonomous in their learning (Smith, 2020).

Multiple Authors

One or two: Wagner and Smithson (2017) argue...
(Wagner & Smithson, 2017).

Three or more: Elliot et al. (2013) suggest that...
(Elliot et al., 2013)

How often should I cite?

- Undercitation can lead to plagiarism, overcitation can be distracting.
- There is no “correct number” of citations. Cite whenever the words or ideas you are using are not common knowledge.

For more information...

Please note that this is a basic guide and only scratches the surface of how to cite your paper using the APA 7th edition style. For more information, please consult a copy of the **Concise Guide to APA style** which is designed for undergraduate students.

