



## Reference list examples

Here are some examples of specific references. For basic rules, see our reference list page. For a sample reference list in context, see the reference page from our sample literature review or the sample master's thesis.

The *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* provides extensive examples covering a wide variety of potential sources on pages 239-281. Below are examples for some of the most commonly cited kinds of sources. If your particular source is not listed below, use the basic forms to determine the correct format, check the *Publication Manual*, or consult the APA style website (<http://www.apastyle.org>), especially their Frequently Asked Questions about APA Style (<http://www.apastyle.org/faqs.html>) and their coverage of electronic references (<http://www.apastyle.org/electref.html>). Our additional resources section also has some links to examples and resources.

### Journal article, one author

Harlow, H. F. (1983). Fundamentals for preparing psychology journal articles. *Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology*, 55, 893-896.

### Journal article, three to six authors

Kernis, M. H., Cornell, D. P., Sun, C. R., Berry, A., & Harlow, T. (1993). There's more to self-esteem than whether it is high or low: The importance of stability of self-esteem. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 65, 1190-1204.

### Journal article, more than six authors

Harris, M., Karper, E., Stacks, G., Hoffman, D., DeNiro, R., Cruz, P., et al. (2001). Writing labs and the Hollywood connection. *Journal of Film and Writing*, 44(3), 213-245.

**NOTE:** The phrase *et al.* stands for "and others."

### Work discussed in a secondary source

Coltheart, M., Curtis, B., Atkins, P., & Haller, M. (1993). Models of reading aloud: Dual-route and parallel-distributed-processing approaches. *Psychological Review*, 100, 589-608.

**NOTE:** Give the secondary source in the references list; in the text, name the original work, and give a citation for the secondary source. For example, if Seidenberg and McClelland's work is cited in Coltheart et al. and you did not read the original work, list the Coltheart et al. reference in the References. In the text, use the following citation:

In Seidenberg and McClelland's study (as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993), ...

### Magazine article, one author

Henry, W. A., III. (1990, April 9). Making the grade in today's schools.  
*Time*, 135, 28-31.

### Book

Calfee, R. C., & Valencia, R. R. (1991). *APA guide to preparing manuscripts for journal publication*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

### An article or chapter of a book

O'Neil, J. M., & Egan, J. (1992). Men's and women's gender role journeys: Metaphor for healing, transition, and transformation. In B. R. Wainrib (Ed.), *Gender issues across the life cycle* (pp. 107-123). New York: Springer.

### A government publication

National Institute of Mental Health. (1990). *Clinical training in serious mental illness* (DHHS Publication No. ADM 90-1679). Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

### A brochure

Research and Training Center on Independent Living. (1993). *Guidelines for reporting and writing about people with disabilities* (4th ed.) [Brochure]. Lawrence, KS: Author.

### A book or article with no author or editor named

*Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary* (10th ed.). (1993).  
Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.

New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure.  
(1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

**NOTE:** For parenthetical citations of sources with no author named, use a shortened version of the title instead of an author's name. Use quotation marks and italics as appropriate. For example, parenthetical citations of the two sources above would appear as follows: (*Merriam-Webster's*, 1993) and ("New Drug," 1993).

### A translated work and/or a republished work

Laplace, P. S. (1951). *A philosophical essay on probabilities*  
(F. W. Truscott & F. L. Emory, Trans.). New York:  
Dover. (Original work published 1814)

**NOTE:** When you cite this work in text, it should appear with both dates: Laplace (1814/1951).

### **A review of a book, film, television program, etc.**

Baumeister, R. F. (1993). Exposing the self-knowledge myth [Review of the book *The self-knower: A hero under control*]. *Contemporary Psychology*, 38, 466-467.

### **An entry in an encyclopedia**

Bergmann, P. G. (1993). Relativity. In *The new encyclopedia britannica* (Vol. 26, pp. 501-508). Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica.

### **A print journal or newspaper article retrieved from an online database**

When referencing material obtained from an online database (such as a database in the library), provide appropriate print citation information (formatted just like a "normal" print citation would be for that type of work). Then add information that gives the date of retrieval and the proper name of the database. This will allow people to retrieve the print version if they do not have access to the database from which you retrieved the article. You can also include the item number or accession number in parentheses at the end, but the APA manual says that this is not required. (For more about citing articles retrieved from electronic databases, see page 278 of the *Publication Manual*.)

Smyth, A. M., Parker, A. L., & Pease, D. L. (2002). A study of enjoyment of peas. *Journal of Abnormal Eating*, 8(3), 77-88. Retrieved February 20, 2003, from PsycARTICLES database.

### **An online journal article**

Kenneth, I. A. (2000). A Buddhist response to the nature of human rights. *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*, 8(4). Retrieved February 20, 2001, from <http://www.cac.psu.edu/jbe/twocont.html>

### **Chapter or section of an online document**

The Foundation for a Better World. (2000). Pollution and banana cream pie. In *Great chefs cook with chlorofluorocarbons and carbon monoxide* (Chap. 3). Retrieved July 13, 2001, from <http://www.bamm.com/cream/pollution/bananas.htm>

**NOTE:** Use a chapter or section identifier and provide a URL that links directly to the chapter section, not the home page of the Web site.

### **Message posted to an online newsgroup, forum, or discussion group**

Frook, B. D. (1999, July 23). New inventions in the cyberworld of toylandia [Msg 25]. Message posted to <http://groups.earthlink.com/forum/messages/00025.html>

**NOTE:** If only the screen name is available for the author, then use the screen name; however, if the author provides a real name, use their real name instead. Be sure to provide the exact date of the posting. Follow the date with the subject line, the *thread* of the message (not in

italics). Provide any identifiers in brackets after the title, as in other types of references.

### **A Motion Picture or Video Tape with international or national availability**

Smith, J.D. (Producer), & Smithee, A.F. (Director). (2001). *Really Big Disaster Movie* [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.

### **A Motion Picture or Video Tape with limited availability**

Harris, M. (Producer), & Turley, M. J. (Director). (2002). *Writing Labs: A History* [Motion picture]. (Available from Purdue University Pictures, 500 Oval Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907)

### **A Television Broadcast**

Important, I.M. (Producer). (1990, November 1). *The Nightly News Hour*. [Television broadcast]. New York: Central Broadcasting Service.

### **A Television Series**

Bellisario, D.L. (Producer). (1992). *Exciting Action Show*. [Television series]. Hollywood: American Broadcasting Company.

### **A Single Episode of a Television Series**

Wendy, S. W. (Writer), & Martian, I.R. (Director). (1986). The rising angel and the falling ape. [Television series episode]. In D. Dude (Producer), *Creatures and monsters*. Los Angeles: Belarus Studios.

### **A music recording**

Taupin, B. (1975). Someone saved my life tonight [Recorded by Elton John]. On *Captain fantastic and the brown dirt cowboy* [CD]. London: Big Pig Music Limited.

If your particular source is not listed, check the *Publication Manual*, or consult the APA style website (<http://www.apastyle.org>), especially their Frequently Asked Questions about APA Style (<http://www.apastyle.org/faqs.html>) and their coverage of electronic references (<http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html>). Our additional resources section also has some links to examples and resources. .

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<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/APA/print/sources/reference.html>

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