

APA In-Text Citations: Author and Source Types

One Author

Use the author's last name and year of publication.

Examples:

- Ahmed (2016) mentions...
- (Ahmed, 2016)

Two Authors

Always name both authors using 'and' in the text or '&' in parentheses.

Examples:

- Wegener and Petty (1994) support...
- (Wegener & Petty, 1994)

Three or More Authors

Use the first author's name followed by 'et al.'

Examples:

- Kernis et al. (1993) suggest...
- (Kernis et al., 1993)

To avoid ambiguity with similar author groups:

- (Jones, Smith, Liu, et al., 2020)
- (Jones, Smith, Ruiz, et al., 2020)

Unknown Author

Use the title in place of the author.

Examples:

- ("Using Citations," 2001)
- Anonymous is treated as a real name: (Anonymous, 2001)

Organization as Author

Use the organization's full name initially, then use abbreviations.

Examples:

- (Mothers Against Drunk Driving [MADD], 2000)
- (MADD, 2000)

Multiple Works in One Citation

Separate sources with semicolons and order alphabetically.

Example:

- (Berndt, 2002; Harlow, 1983)

For the same author:

- (Smith, n.d., 1995, 2002, in press)

Same Last Name Authors

Use first initials to differentiate.

Example:

- (E. Johnson, 2001; L. Johnson, 1998)

Same Author, Same Year

Label with a, b, c...

Examples:

- (Berndt, 1981a)
- (Berndt, 1981b)

Introductions, Prefaces, etc.

Cite as normal with author and year.

Example:

- (Funk & Kolln, 1992)

Personal Communication

Include communicator's name, label as personal communication, and date. Do not list in references.

Example:

- (E. Robbins, personal communication, January 4, 2001)

Traditional Indigenous Knowledge

Provide full name, group, location, and context.

Example:

- (Caroline Jennings, Cherokee Nation, lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, personal communication, October 2019)

Indirect Sources

Mention original source, cite the secondary.

Examples:

- Johnson argued that... (as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102)
- (Johnson, 1985, as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102)

Electronic Sources

Use the author-date style like any other source.

Example:

- Kenneth (2000) explained...

Unknown Author and Date

Use the title and 'n.d.' in place of author and date.

Example:

- ("Tutoring and APA," n.d.)

Sources Without Page Numbers

Use section names, paragraph numbers, or headings.

Example:

- (Mind Over Matter section, para. 6)

Other Source Types

Apply APA principles consistently. For unusual formats, follow a similar APA category (e.g., cite VR software like computer software). Check third-party style guides if needed.