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The APA Format

Adapted from Muriel Harris, *Prentice Hall Reference Guide to Grammar and Usage* and *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition.

In-Text Citations

Author's Name Given in the Text

When Millard (1970) compared reaction times among the participants, he noted an increase in errors.

Author's Name Not Given in the Text

In a recent study of reaction times (Millard, 1970) no change was noticed.

When Quoting Directly From a Source

She stated, "The 'placebo effect' ...disappeared when behaviors were studied in this manner" (Miele, 1993, p. 276), but she did not clarify which behaviors were studied.

Miele (1993) found that "the 'placebo effect,' which had been verified in previous studies, disappeared when [only the first group's] behaviors were studied in this manner" (p. 276).

Works With No Author or With an Anonymous Author

on free care ("Study Finds," 1982).

Citation of a Secondary Source

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

Personal Communications

Personal communications include personal interviews, telephone conversations, letters, memos, and some electronic communications such as e-mail or messages from nonarchived discussion groups or electronic bulletin boards. Personal communications, since they don't provide recoverable data, are cited in text only and are not included in the reference list. **As a general rule, identify the nature of the communication within the text.**

Author's Name Given in the Text

In a phone conversation, T.K. Lutes noted that the study was "inaccurate" (personal communication, April 18, 2001).

Author's Name Not Given in the Text

One correspondent emailed his belief that the law was "unjust" (V.-G. Nguyen, personal communication, September 28, 1998).

Preparing a Reference List

Start the reference list on a new page. The word *References* should be centered on the top of the page. Since the student's paper will be a final copy, the hanging indent style should be used when preparing the reference list. All entries should be double-spaced and in alphabetical order by the author's last name. **The reference list should contain only the sources that were specifically used in the preparation of the paper.** The references should include all the information necessary for someone to retrieve the sources. The following items should be included in each reference:

- Author's name(s)
- Publication date
- Title of work
- Publication information

The following is a sample reference list, as it would appear in a finished paper. Examine each reference carefully for accurate placement of periods, parentheses, italics, etc. If in doubt about the correct format, consult *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Many of these samples are drawn directly from *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition.

References

- Web page author identified → Ashenfelter, J. P. (2001). *Adding data to a database with cold fusion*. Retrieved October 25, 2002, from http://www.webreview.com/dd/2001/01_19_01.shtml
- Book → Beck, C. A. J., & Sales, B. D. (2001). *Family meditation: Facts, myths, and future prospects*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Article in a database → Borman, W. C., Hanson, M. A. Oppler, S. H., Pulakos, E. D., & White, L. A. (1993). Role of early supervisory experience in supervisor performance. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 78, 443-449. Retrieved October 23, 2000, from PsycARTICLES database.
- Edited book → Gibbs, J. T., & Huang, L. N. (Eds.). (1991). *Children of color: Psychological interventions with minority youth*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Web page → *GVU's 8th WWW user survey*. (n.d.). Retrieved August 8, 2000, from http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_survey/survey-1997-10/
- Magazine → Kandel, E. R., & Squire, L. R. (2000, November 10). Neuroscience: Breaking down scientific barriers to the study of brain and mind. *Science*, 290, 1113-1120.
- Court case → *Lessard v. Schmidt*, 349 F. Supp. 1078 (E.D. Wis. 1972).
- Article or chapter in an edited book → Massaro, D. (1992). Broadening the domain of the fuzzy logical model of perception. In H. L. Pick Jr., P. van den Broek, & D. C. Knill (Eds.), *Cognition: Conceptual and methodological issues* (pp. 51-84). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Review → Mroczek, D. K. (2000). The emerging study of midlife [Review of the book *Life in the middle: Psychological and social development in middle age*]. *Contemporary Psychology: APA Review of Books*, 45, 482-485.
- Statute in a state code → Mental Care and Treatment Act, 4 Kan. Stat. Ann. §§ 59-2901-2941 (1983 & Supp. 1992).
- Daily newspaper article without author → New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.
- Motion Picture → Scorsese, M. (Producer), & Lonergan, K. (Writer/Director). (2000). *You can count on me* [Motion Picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.