APA Style Documentation

APA style is the manuscript and documentation format of the American Psychological Association. Fields of study using APA style include the social sciences, education, business, and nursing. Specific and in-depth information about APA Style can be found in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition).

APA style differs from humanities-based writing (often done in MLA style). Humanities-based writing focuses on word-for-word use of sources (lines of poetry, quotes from novels, literary analysis); APA style, however:

- ➤ focuses on concepts rather than word-for-word quotes,
- ➤ avoids pronouns (I think, I feel, I believe…),
- ➤ focuses on facts.

In addition, while some titles in MLA require quotation marks, in APA such marks are not used for titles. One other particular difference is the bibliographic listing of sources used in an APA paper is simply titled **References** (not **Works Cited**, as in MLA style).

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Author named in sentence or parentheses

When the author is named in the sentence, the year of publication immediately follows the name. This is called signal phrasing. If the author is *not* named in the sentence, you must put the author's last name, year of publication, and, if applicable, the page number in parentheses at the end of the sentence.

(Single author named in sentence): **Research by Wegener (1994) supports the claim that...**

(Single author named in parentheses): **Sickle-cell anemia is often fatal, and its health effects vary (Wegener, 1994).**

When to include page number/s in parenthetical citation

The APA manual discusses how to cite specific parts of a source: "To cite a specific part of a source, indicate the page, chapter, figure, table, or equation at the appropriate point in the text. Always give page number for quotations. Note that *page*, but not *chapter*, is abbreviated in such text citations" (APA, 2010, p. 179).

(Citation with page number): **(Anderson, 2005, p. 10).**
(with multiple page numbers): **(Emery, 2006, pp. 23-24).**

Citing one work by multiple authors

"If a source has two authors, cite both names every time the reference occurs in the text. When a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs; in subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by *et al.* (not italicized and with a period after *al*) and the year if it is the first citation of the reference within a paragraph" (APA, 2010, p. 175).

(Work by two authors named in sentence): **Waldron and Dieser conclude the media are responsible for shaping student perceptions of health and fitness (2010).**

(Work by two authors named in parentheses): **The media are greatly responsible for shaping student perceptions of health and fitness (Waldron & Dieser, 2010).**

Citing multiple works in same parentheses

"Order the citations of two or more works within the same parentheses alphabetically in the same order in which they appear in the reference list (including citations that would otherwise shorten to *et al.*)" (APA, 2010, p. 177).

Example: **Several studies (Miller, 1999; Shafranske & Mahoney, 1998) argue that...**

REFERENCE EXAMPLES

Book (or journal) with multiple authors

List up to seven authors by last names followed by initials. Use an ampersand (&) before the name of the last author. If there are more than seven authors, list the first six followed by three ellipsis dots and author's last name.

all authors:
last name + initial(s)   year

Diessner, R., Solom, R. C., Frost, N. K., Parsons, L., & Davidson, J. (2008). Engagement

title (article)

with beauty: Appreciating natural, artistic, and moral beauty. *The Journal*

journal title   volume   page(s)

of Psychology, 142, 303-329.

Organization as an author

author:
organization name   year   title (book)

American Psychiatric Association. (1994). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental*

edition   place   organization as author
number   of publication   and publisher

disorders (4th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Book with an editor

all editors: year of
last name + initial(s)   publication   book title   edition

Aronson, J., & Aronson, E. (Eds.). (2008). *Readings about the social animal* (10th ed.).

place of
publication   publisher

New York, NY: Worth.

Edition other than the first

O'Brien, J. A. (Ed.). (2006). *The production of reality: Essays and readings on social interaction* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.

Journal, magazine or newspaper article, print

author: last name
+ initial(s)   year   article title

Zhang, L.-F. (2008). Teachers' styles of thinking: An exploratory study. *The Journal*

journal title   volume page(s)

of Psychology, 142, 37-55.

author: last name   year + month + day
+ initial(s)   (for daily publication)   article title

Svoboda, E. (2008, October 21). Deep in the rain forest, stalking the next pandemic.

newspaper title   page(s)

The New York Times, p. D5.

Give the year, month, and day for daily and weekly newspapers. Use "p." or "pp." before page numbers.

Article from online newspaper or magazine

State the author, date, article title, and newspaper title. Follow with pages numbers, if available. End with URL (universal reference link) for the newspaper's home page.

Watson, P. (2008, October 19). Biofuel boom endangers orangutan habitat. *Los Angeles Times*. Retrieved from http://www.latimes.com/

Article from a database

If the database entry includes a DOI (digital object identifier) for the article, use the DOI number at the end.

all authors:
last name + initial(s)   year   article title

Eskritt, M., & McLeod, K. (2008). Children's note taking as a mnemonic tool.

journal title   volume page(s)   DOI

Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 101, 52-74. doi:10.1016

/jecp.2008.05.007

If there is no DOI, include the URL for the home page of the journal. If the URL is not included in the database entry, you can search for it on the Web.

Howard, K. R. (2007). Childhood overweight: Parental perceptions and readiness for change. *The Journal of School Nursing, 23*, 73-79. Retrieved from http://jsn.sagepub.com/

Document from a university or government agency site

Cosmides, L., & Tooby, J. (1997). *Evolutionary psychology: A primer*. Retrieved from University of Santa Barbara, Center for Evolutionary Psychology website: http://www.psych.ucsb.du/research/cep/primer.html

U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis.. (2008). *U.S. international trade in goods and services* (Report No. CB08-121, BEA08-7, FT-900). Retrieved from http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release//2008pr/06/ftdpress.pdf

Still having trouble with websites? Refer to:

http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2010/11/how-to-cite-something-you-found-on-a-website-in-apa-style.html

The information for this handout was compiled from the following sources:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.
American Psychological Association. (n.d.). APA style. Retrieved from http://www.apastyle.org/
Angeli, E., Wagner, J., Lawrick, E., Moore, K., Anderson, M., Soderland, L., & Brizee, A. (2010, May 5). *General format*. Retrieved from http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
Glenn, C., & Gray, L (2013). *The Writer's Harbrace Handbook* (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Wadsworth.
Hacker, D., & Sommers, N. (2011). *A Writer's Reference* (7th ed.). Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's.

A running head, which will be used in the printed journal article, consists of a title (shortened to no more than fifty characters) in all capital letters. On the title page, it is preceded by the label "Running head." Page numbers appear in the upper right corner.

Full title, writer's name, and school name are centered halfway down the page.

Can Medication Cure Obesity in Children?

A Review of the Literature

Luisa Mirano

Northwest-Shoals Community College

Abstract

In recent years, policymakers and medical experts have expressed alarm about the growing problem of childhood obesity in the United States. While most agree that the issue deserves attention, consensus dissolves

Abstract appears on a separate page.

Full title, centered.

Can Medication Cure Obesity in Children?

A Review of the Literature

In March 2004, U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona called attention to a health problem in the United States that, until recently, has been overlooked: childhood obesity. Carmona said that the "astounding" 15% child obesity rate constitutes an "epidemic." Since the early 1980s, that rate has "doubled in children and tripled in adolescents." Now more than 9 million children are classified as obese.[1] While the traditional response to a medical epidemic is to hunt for a vaccine or a cure-all pill, childhood obesity is more elusive. The lack of success of recent initiatives suggests that medication might not be the answer for the escalating problem. This literature review considers whether the use of medication is a promising approach for solving the childhood obesity problem by responding to the following questions:

Mirano sets up her organization by posing four questions.

1. What are the implications of childhood obesity?
2. Is medication effective at treating childhood obesity?
3. Is medication safe for children?
4. Is medication the best solution?

Mirano states her thesis.

Understanding the limitations of medical treatments for children highlights the complexity of the childhood obesity problem in the United States and underscores the need for physicians, advocacy groups, and policymakers to search for other solutions.

Headings, centered, help readers follow the organization.

What Are the Implications of Childhood Obesity?

Obesity can be a devastating problem from both an individual and a

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List of references begins on a new page. Heading is centered.

List is alphabetized by authors' last names. All authors' names are inverted.

References

Berkowitz, R. I., Wadden, T. A., Tershakovec, A. M., & Cronquist, J. L. (2003). Behavior therapy and sibutramine for the treatment of adolescent obesity. *Journal of the American Medical Association, 289*, 1805-1812.

Carmona, R. H. (2004, March 2). *The growing epidemic of childhood obesity*. Testimony before the Subcommittee on Competition, Foreign Commerce, and Infrastructure of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Retrieved