

## A Brief Overview of APA Style

Briefly (and this is only meant to be a broad overview), APA Style consists of the following points. The paper should be typed, left-justified, double spaced, and have margins that are 1" all around. Generally, each page of typed text consists of two to three paragraphs; try to avoid pages that only have a single paragraph on them. Page numbers and headers are required.

Headings in APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Style look like this:

### **First Level**

### **Second Level**

### ***Third level***

### **Fourth level.**

### ***Fifth level.***

Be sure to cite your sources. In the body of the paper, use the author's last name and year of publication (e.g., Grieve, 2020). The same thing goes for multiple authors (e.g., Grieve & Paquin, 2015). If there are more than three authors, you abbreviate it (Thornberry et al., 2019). Any time you cite more than one source for your information, you should alphabetize the citations by first author (e.g., Grieve, 2019; Kuhlenschmidt & Im, 2010).

The form of journal references in the reference section is like this:

Presley, E. A. (1970). The effects of prolonged  
barbituate usage on the cardiopulmonary  
system: An individual experiential journey.  
*Annals of Drug Use*, 14(5), 69-77. doi:  
1332.23.7823/1973

If there is more than one author for the article, the form for journal references in the reference section is like this:

Neal, L., Wycheck, F., & Dyson, K. (2000). This  
one's for Buffalo: We do believe in miracles.  
*Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*,  
19(12), 1-27. doi: 10.33256.21/18.257.774

There are other forms for citing books:

Cobain, K. (1990). *Imaginative uses for a  
shotgun*. Harcourt.

And chapters of books:

Reeves, C. (1997). Tips on English saddle riding.  
In M. Keaton (Ed.) *My acting buddies and  
their hobbies* (pp. 12-13). Publicity Press.

And presentations:

Simpson, O. J. (1996, September 6-8). *The*

*anatomy of a jury trial victory: How I did it*

*and got away with it* [Paper presentation].

Los Angeles Area Fraternity of Law

Enforcement Officials 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting,

Brentwood, CA.

before blindly citing information  
presented on the internet.

And posters:

British Petroleum. (2010, April 20-24). *Who knew a*

*little fire would lead to all of that?* [Poster

presentation. Mea Culpa Conference for

Confessionals 2, 194<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Mobile,

AL.

And web pages:

Letourneau, M. K. (1998). *Looking for love in all the*

*wrong places: How I found out that 16 will get*

*you 20*. <http://www.vo.mit.edu/>

[court\\_cases/jailbait.htm](http://www.vo.mit.edu/court_cases/jailbait.htm)

If you have found a reference which you  
are having difficulties determining the  
citation, please come see me during my  
office hours.

### **A Quick Word on Using Web Pages as Reference Material**

Just remember that any bozo can post  
information to the web. There are not  
necessarily any peer review processes in  
place for material that is presented on  
web sites. Therefore, it is imperative that  
you use your critical thinking skills