APA format 6th edition has two types of citations: in-text citation and full reference citation.

## 1. In-text citation:

Multiple author names are separated using a comma. Only the final name in the list is preceded by an ampersand (“&”), for example: (Taylor, Johnson, & Parker, 2019). Use “[et al](https://www.scribbr.com/citing-sources/et-al/).” to shorten in-text citations of sources with 6+ authors (first in-text citations) and 3+ authors (subsequent in-text citations), for example: (Taylor et al., 2019).

| APA in-text citation, multiple authors | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Author type** | **First in-text citation** | **Subsequent in-text citations** |
| **No author** | (“Title of the Work,” 2018) | (“Title of the Work,” 2018) |
| **1 author** | (Taylor, 2018) | (Taylor, 2018) |
| **2 authors** | (Taylor & Kotler, 2018) | (Taylor & Kotler, 2018) |
| **3 – 5 authors** | (Taylor, Kotler, Johnson, & Parker, 2018) | (Taylor et al., 2018) |
| **6+ authors** | (Taylor et al., 2018) | (Taylor et al., 2018) |
| **Organization (identified through abbreviation)** | (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2018) | (CDC, 2018) |
| **Organization (no abbreviation)** | (Apple, 2018) | (Apple, 2018) |

**Punctuation in APA in-text citations**

* When [using the abbreviation “et al.,”](https://www.scribbr.com/citing-sources/et-al/) always include a period (“.”).
* Include a comma between “et al.” and the publication date (e.g. Taylor et al., 2018).
* There should be no punctuation between “et al.” and the author’s name preceding it.
* The period ending the sentence always comes after the citation (even when quoting).

Never use an ampersand symbol (“&”) in the running text. Instead, use the full word “and.”

**☒** According to research by Taylor & Kotler … (2018).

**✓** Taylor and Kotler conclude … (2018).

* When you directly quote, you need to include a page number. For example; **Smith, 2014, pp. 14-15** OR if you have only one page number you can write: **Smith, 2014, p. 14**.
* For sources without a year of publication, use “n.d.” (no date) instead: (Johnson, n.d.).
* When you cite one idea in different sources, you have to use the following format of semicolons to separate the authors: **Several studies show that … (Brown & Brody, 2009; Porter, 2004; Swaen, 2015, 2017a, 2017b).**
* For citing the same source multiple times in a paragraph there are specific APA guidelines. The first mention should include the author and publication year. For subsequent mentions in the running text, you only have to include the author’s last name, not the year. However, citations in parentheses should always include the year.
* Research by Swaen (2016) shows that students think the APA Citation Generator is a useful tool. Swaen also states that universities are increasingly using the generator. Scribbr is therefore continuing to develop the APA Citation Generator (Swaen, 2016).
* If you want to cite a source that you found in another source, you can do one of two things. First of all, you should try to find the original source ([primary source](https://www.scribbr.com/working-with-sources/primary-and-secondary-sources/)). If you’re able to find it you can use regular APA guidelines. If you are not able to find the primary source, you should cite it through the source that led you to it ([secondary source](https://www.scribbr.com/working-with-sources/primary-and-secondary-sources/#what-is-a-secondary-source)). The in-text citation looks like this: Porter (as cited in Johnson, 2017) states that…

Note that in case you cannot find the original source, you have to include the secondary source in the full list of references, here it is Johnson.

[Raimo Streefkerk](https://www.scribbr.com/author/raimo/), 2020. Retrieved from: <https://www.scribbr.com/apa-style/6th-edition/archived-in-text-citation/>.

**2. Full reference citation:**

Alred, G. J., Brusaw, C. T., & Oliu, W. E. (2009). *The business writer’s handbook*. New York: St Martin's Press. **Book**

Easton, B. (2008). Does poverty affect health? In K. Dew & A. Matheson (Eds.), Understanding health inequalities in Aotearoa New Zealand (pp. 97-106). Dunedin: Otago University Press. **A chapter in an edited book**

Li, S., & Seale, C. (2007). Learning to do qualitative data analysis: An observational study of doctoral work. Qualitative Health Research, 17(10), 1442-1452. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732307306924>. **A journal article**

**DOI: Digital Object Identifier in APA 7th edition.**

**Task 1**: find the error in the following in-text citations:

1. (Sheret, Sultana and Sotir 2016) 7. (Seven news 1994)  
2. (Yeo, Oh, Pyke, McDonald 1998) 8. (Turnbull in Shorten 2003)  
3. (Charman 2007) 9. (Minogue 1968, Lopez 1971)  
4. (Smith 2009 p 7) 10. (Dickinson 2009, a)  
5. (Brown nd) 11. (Copyright Act 1968)  
6. According to Sotir (2016), academic literacy is ‘critical for survival’ at university.

**Task 2**: correct the following full reference citations and identify their type:

Balagura, Steve. (1968). “Influence of Osmotic and Caloric Loads Upon Lateral Hypothalamic Self-Stimulation” *Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology, 66,* 325-328.

Abel, S. E., Fox, P. T., Potley, J. R. (1997). Insights from recent positronemissiontomographic studies of drug abuse and dependence. Current Opinion in Psychiatry, 19(3), 246-252.

Abel, S.E., Fox, P.T., Posner, J.P. (1998). Positron emission tomographic studies of the cortical anatomy of single word processing. *Nature, 331,* pp. 585-589.

Codon, D. E. (1994, January 10). Kids growing up scared. *Newsweek,* volume 73, issue 3, pp. 43-49.

Klatzky, R. L. (1980). *Human Memory: Structures and Processes* (Second Edition). Friedman: San Francisco, CA.

Eva, Codo. (2018) Language policy and Planning, insittutions, and neoliberalism. In James, W. Tollefson and [Miguel Pérez-Milans (ed.)](javascript:;) the oxford handbook of language policy and planning. Oxford university press, oxford: 467-484.