

CITING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SOURCES

Good source: <http://www.easybib.com/reference/guide/apa/general>



Citations are similar to footnotes in English or history papers but are MUCH easier to include. Citations are included only in the Introduction and/or Discussion sections of a report. Scientific citations are placed within the paper itself, not at the bottom of the page. Citations are placed at the end of a sentence or paragraph that contains the information you gathered from another source.

- RULE 1** Cite all sources that refer to information on your species, experiment, or study site.
- RULE 2** Cite all sources that back up your conclusions.
- RULE 3** Cite anything that brings in a fact not directly taken from your own personal observations or experiment.
- RULE 4** **WHEN IN DOUBT, CITE!**

EXAMPLES OF PROPER CITING

(author, date)

White sharks are known to be man eaters (**Halstead, 2008**). They are the only shark that regularly preys on marine mammals for food. Some scientists believe that great whites attack humans by mistake: the silhouette of a surfer paddling on a surfboard may be mistaken for a seal sunning on the surface (**Ellis, ed., 2011**).

(editor, date)

VARIATIONS IN SCIENTIFIC CITATIONS (APA 6th edition format)

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the sciences.

One Author: *(last name only, date)*
Example: (Bronowski, 2003)

Two Authors: *(both last names only, date)*
Example: (Walker and Maben, 2005)

Three or More Authors: *(all last names only, date)*
Example: (Cochran, Wiles, and Manack, 2011)

No Authors: *(abbreviated title, date)*
Example: (Insects of Guam, 2010)

Only an Editor: *(last name only, abbreviation for editor, date)*
Example: (Ellis, ed., 2011)

Citing an Expert You Have Spoken to or Corresponded with:

Example: (Whitcraft, pers. commun., 2018)
(last name, "personal communications")