



How to show your sources in a research paper

There are many different ways to do this (for example, the APA, MLA and Harvard systems) and different courses or subjects use different styles. In the Intensive English A classes, we basically use the APA style.

(Note: in other classes, teachers may ask you to use a different style. Always check what your teacher expects.)

A Quick APA Guide

Here is an example essay paragraph which quotes directly and paraphrases other sources:

John (2017) argues that dogs are the best kind of pets. He talks of his own experience of having dogs and also the good points of the character of dogs. However, Tanaka (n.d.) disagrees, and states simply, “Cats are nicer.” A popular blog also agrees with Tanaka, and argues that the intelligence of cats is far greater than dogs. (We All Think Cats are Best, 2018)

Note: ‘n.d.’ means ‘no date’ because the webpage didn’t have the date, and “We All Think Cats are Best” is the title of a webpage because the webpage didn’t say the author’s name.

Here are what the references for the paragraph above would look like at the end of the essay:

References

Jones, J. (2017) *Pets*. Kyoto: World Publishing.

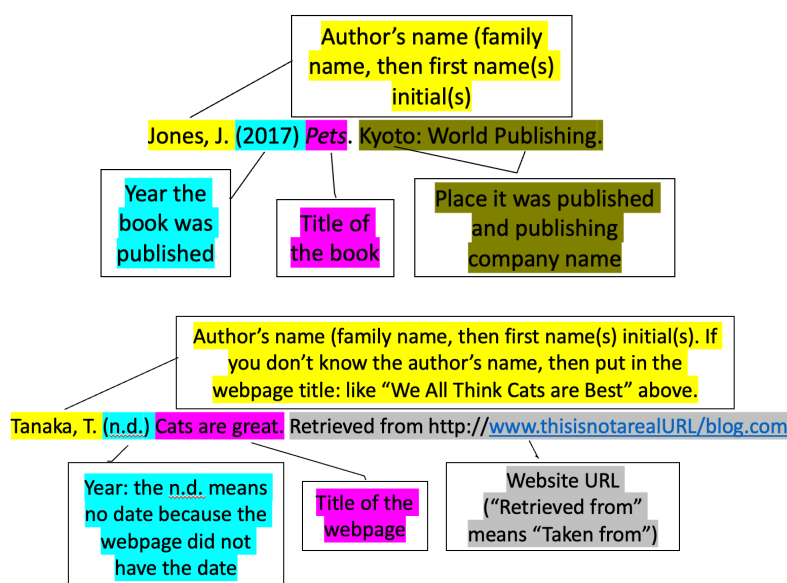
Tanaka, T. (n.d.) Cats are great. Retrieved from <http://www.thisisnotarealURL/blog.com>

We All Think Cats are Best. (2018). Retrieved from <http://www.lovecats/blog/catsarebest.html>

Note: the references are in alphabetical (abc...) order, based on the author’s family name.

Here is how the structure works:

APA Style Summary Guide



There are many possible sources you could use for research: books, magazines, movies, music, newspapers, music video, online blogs, e-mails, Wikipedia... the list is very long, and how each should be referenced is different. This can make using APA a challenge, so here is a basic guide to help you.

(1) How to show where your idea or quote comes from inside your essay

When you use a quote in your writing or text (called an in-text citation), you need to show who wrote it, what year it was written in, and what page it comes from. Here are three patterns:

- “Dogs are nice.” (Jones, 2017, p.22)
- According to Jones (2017), “Dogs are nice” (p.22).
- Jones (2017) says that, “Dogs are nice” (p.22).

If you don't know what year it was written (which often happens with things on the internet) you write n.d. (no date) instead of the year. Also, if it is an internet quote and there are no clear page numbers, you do not need to write a page number. For example, if someone called Tanaka wrote “Cats are nice” in a blog, you would write:

- “Cats are nice.” (Tanaka, n.d.)

Here is how to use a reference when you are paraphrasing or summarizing:

- Jones (2017) stated that he liked dogs.

But if you can, put in a page number too:

- Jones (2017, p.22) stated that he liked dogs.

If you are using a longer quote (more than about 40 words) you need to do this:

Jones (2017) said:

Dogs are nice. I love them. I have always had pet dogs, even when I was a baby. I think dogs are the best type of pet because they are so loving and faithful. If anyone asks me what kind of pet they should get, I always recommend a dog. (p.22)

(Note: all of the quotation is indented (there is a space on the left-hand side) and there are not quotation marks (“”).)

(2) How to give the details about the source at the end of your writing

There are many different possible sources you could use in your writing: a book, a blog or a movie, etc. Because they are different, how you list them would be different.

<u>Source</u>	<u>In-text citation</u> (see 1 above)	<u>Reference at the end (References)</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
<u>Paper media</u>			
Book	Jones (2017) said...	Jones, J. (2017) <i>Pets</i> . Kyoto: World Publishing.	Author (year of publication), title, place published, publishing company.
Book (2 authors)	Jones and Smith (2017) said...	Jones, J., & Smith, E. (2017) <i>The World of Pets</i> . Kyoto: World Publishing.	Authors, (year of publication), title, place published, publishing company
Book (organization as author)	Kyoto Sangyo University (2017) said...	Kyoto Sangyo University (2017) Writing good essays. Kyoto: Sandai publishing	Organization name (date of publication) title, place of publication: publishing company
Chapter of a book	Jones (2017) said...	Jones, J. (2017) Dogs are great, in Smith, E. <i>The World of Pets</i> . Kyoto: World Publishing	Author, (Year published), title of chapter, "In" book author, book title, place published: publishing company
Magazine or journal article	Smith (2017) said...	Smith, S. (2017) Dogs are the best <i>Time</i> , 126, 2-6.	Author, (year published), article title, magazine/book title, magazine volume or issue number, article page numbers.
Newspaper article	Smith (2017) said...	Smith, S. (2017, March 2). Cats are great. <i>The Japan Times</i> , 126, pp.2-3.	Author, (date published), article title, newspaper title, issue number, article pages
<u>Popular media</u>			
Movie	Kurtz and Lucas (1977) said...	Kurtz, G. (Producer), & Lucas, G. (Director). (1977). <i>Star Wars</i> [Motion picture]. United States of America: Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation.	Producer, P. (Producer), & Director, D. (Director). (Year). Title of movie [Motion picture]. Country it comes from: Studio.
Song on a CD	Lady Gaga (2011, track 2) said...	Lady Gaga. (2011). <i>Born this way</i> . On Born This Way. Santa Monica, CA :Streamline/Interscope/KonLive	Writer (Copyright year). <i>Title of song</i> [Recorded by A. Artist if the artist is different to the writer]. "On" album title [CD] Location: Label

<u>Online material (basic pattern)</u>			<i>Author. (Year, month, day published – use n.d. if there is no date). Title of article. Title of publication. Retrieved from http://url address</i>
Webpage	Smith (2017) said...	Smith, S. (2017, June 25). <i>Dogs are great</i> . Retrieved from http://www.discussion.com	Author. (Year, month, day published – use n.d. if there is no date). <i>Title of webpage</i> "Retrieved from" http://url address
Blog post	Jones (2018) said...	Jones, K. (2018). Cats are better [Web log post]. Retrieved March 3, 2018, from http://pettalk.com	Author (Year, month, day published). Article title [Type of blog post]. "Retrieved " date taken from net "from" URL
Online magazine article	Smith (2017) said...	Smith, S. (2017) Dogs are great. Time, Retrieved from http://www.time.2smith.jp/	Author, (year of publication), article title, <i>magazine title</i> , "Retrieved from..." article URL
Online newspaper	Smith (2017) said...	Smith, S. (2017, March 2). Dogs are great. <i>The Japan Times</i> . Retrieved from http://japantimes.com/2017/03/02/dogs-are-great/x2	Author, (year of publication), article title, <i>newspaper name</i> , "Retrieved from..." article URL
Online chapter of a book	Jones (2017) said...	Jones, J. (2017) Dogs are great, in Smith, E. <i>The World of Pets</i> . Retrieved from http://books.google.com	Author, (Year published), title of chapter, "In" book author, <i>book title</i> , "Retrieved from" URL
Online - don't know author	History of Japan (2018) said...	History of Japan. (2018, February 16) Retrieved March 2, 2018 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Japan	Title of article/webpage, (date of publication), "Retrieved from..." URL
Online - video like YouTube	KatyPerry VEVO (2010) said...	KatyPerryVEVO. (2010, June 14) <i>Katy Perry – California Gurls (Official) ft. Snoop Dogg</i> [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F57P9C4SAW4	Who uploaded it: author or screen name, (year, month, day it was uploaded), <i>title of video</i> (under the YouTube video), [type of file], "Retrieved from..." URL
<i>Important note about author names:</i>		<i>For author, write the family name first, then first name initial and middle name initial. So, John Andrew Smith would be: Smith, J.A.</i>	

What if I have more than one reference? Which one should I write first?

If you have more than one source or reference, you show them in alphabetical (abcde..) order like this:

References

- KatyPerryVEVO. (2010, June 14) *Katy Perry – California Gurls (Official) ft. Snoop Dogg* [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F57P9C4SAW4>
- Kurtz, G. (Producer), & Lucas, G. (Director). (1977). *Star Wars* [Motion picture]. United States of America: Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation.
- Lady Gaga. (2011). *Born this way*. Santa Monica, CA :Streamline/Interscope/KonLive

What if I use Japanese sources?

Of course, for an essay you write in English you can use sources written in Japanese, but you need to write them in the references, too. You need to change the Japanese to 'romaji' so they can be listed alphabetically with the other sources. Here is a basic example from the Yale University Library website (<https://guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=296262&p=1974231>):

Shochiku (Producer), & Ozu, Y. (Director).(1953). *Tōkyō Monogatari* [Tokyo story] [Motion picture]. Japan: Shōchiku, 1953.

Note: There is an English translation of the title.

How To Find More Details for the Future or Study Abroad

If you study abroad or your teacher asks for a different style, there is a lot of information about this online. Here are some links that might help to understand things more:

- Here is a nice, simple introduction to referencing from PennState University Libraries in America for APA: <http://guides.libraries.psu.edu/apaquickguide/intext>
- The University of British Columbia link below does a great job of explaining how and why to do citations, outlines many of the different styles, provides some clear diagrams to help explain them, and has videos and links to help you with the different styles:
- http://wiki.ubc.ca/Library:How_to_Cite_Sources#Start
- The Purdue University OWL (Online Writing Lab) is a great resource, and this page gives links to information about other styles such as the, the MLA Style and the Chicago Manual of Style. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>