How to reference your assignment using APA

Magazine and Journal articles

What is referencing?

Referencing is a system used at colleges and universities to let anyone reading your assignments know exactly where you found your information.

To reference your assignment correctly you will need to do two things:

- Give a citation in your assignment
- Create a reference list at the end of the assignment

Citations in your assignment

A citation is a piece of writing in your assignment that shows who wrote or is responsible for the idea, words or image you are using. Each citation ‘cites’, or points to, a reference in your reference list. Citations go in brackets and should be written in your assignment with the quotation. They need to include:

- the surnames of all the authors/editors (check referencing.port.ac.uk for more than 3 authors), or the full name of the organisation if there are no individual authors/editors
- the year of publication of the issue of the magazine or journal
- the page number(s) of the quotation

When you quote from another writer there are two types of quotation.

A direct quotation uses the writer’s exact words.
An indirect quotation is when you rewrite or paraphrase the writer’s words in your own words.
You need to give a citation and a reference for both types of quotation.

Example of a direct quotation:

Write the quotation in quotation marks.

McQueen and Webber (2009, p. 244) divide reasons for successful learning outcomes into two categories, “socio-emotional and practical”.

OR

The reasons for successful learning outcomes can be divided into two categories, “socio-emotional and practical” (McQueen & Webber, 2009, p. 244).

Example of an indirect quotation

McQueen and Webber (2009, p. 244) reported on the results of student surveys conducted to find the reasons for successful learning outcomes.

OR

The success of students’ learning can be affected by social, emotional and practical issues (McQueen & Webber, 2009, p. 244).

Other ways of writing indirect quotations include

- According to McQueen and Webber (2009, p. 244) ...
- Research by McQueen and Webber (2009, p. 244) found that ...

[Adapted from referencing.port.ac.uk by Chichester College Library October 2016]
Reference list at the end of the assignment

The reference you write in your reference list will give all the details of the source where you read the original quotation. It should be one alphabetical list and include references to all types of resource used. Begin each reference with the surname of the author/editor or the organisation name which you used to begin the citation.

Additional details you will need to write this list are:

- initials of authors
- title of article
- title of magazine or journal
- volume and part number of the journal or date/week/month of issue of magazine
- page numbers of the whole article

The reference is written like this. Note the punctuation and that the title of the magazine or journal is in italics or if you are writing by hand then the magazine or journal title is underlined. Weekly or monthly magazines are referenced slightly differently to journals.

Weekly Magazine
Author’s Surname, Initials. (year, month, day). Title of article. Title of Magazine, Volume number(part/issue number - if any), start page number - end page number.

Example:


Monthly Magazine
Author’s Surname, Initials. (year, month). Title of article. Title of Magazine, Volume number(part/issue number - if any), start page number - end page number.

Example:


Journal
Author’s Surname, Initials. (year). Title of article. Title of Journal, Volume number - if there is one(issue number), start page number - end page number.

Example:


Further help
Please ask in the College library for help with referencing. See additional handouts for how to reference books and webpages and a sample reference list. The University of Portsmouth Library website http://referencing.port.ac.uk has an excellent interactive tool to help you to reference books and other materials in your research. Select APA 6th edition.