

This short video tutorial will focus on the basic set up for in-text citations in APA format.

It is first helpful to get an idea about why in-text citations are important and when they should be used.

In APA, you should use citations in parentheses, within the text, to let your audience know when you have borrowed information and where that information has come from.

Most students know to cite direct quotes, but it is important to remember you must also include in-text citations for summarized and paraphrased information. You are not just citing words; you are citing ideas.

The basic in-text citation in APA format includes the author's last name, the year, and the page number.

<points to highlighted material on page 11>

Here, you will see the basic version of an in-text citation. After my quote, I have the author's last name, a comma, the year, a comma, a p and a period, followed by the page number.

<points to highlighted material on page 7>

There are variations on the standard in-text citation, however, as you will often use the author or authors' last names as you set up a quote or paraphrased material.

Here, because I have used the authors' names to set up this information, I must place the year after the mention of those names. Then, I need an additional citation for the page number after the quote.

<points to highlighted material on page 10>

Finally, we will take a look at a citation from an online source that did not include a page number. In this case, APA requires that you list the paragraph number. You will notice the "para." in my citation. This lets my readers know that there were no page numbers, but this is the paragraph number for that information.

In closing, the important thing to remember is to cite any ideas you borrow and to include only the required information in your in-text citation. Full publication information will be saved for your References list.