
Lesson five: Using Sources of Information

C- Citing Sources of Information

A **citation** is a way of giving credit to individuals for their ideas that the writer used to support his/ her arguments in the literature review and in his/ her research paper. It is used also to locate the sources where information was brought from and to combat plagiarism.

A **citation style** refers to how a citation and how the information is ordered, as well as punctuation and other formatting in the academic papers such as the font, the margin and the spacing .

When writing an academic paper, there are different styles used to format the information differently. The choice of style depends on the field of study or the requirement of the university, the department or the course.

Citation styles

These are some example for citation styles:

- **APA** (American Psychological Association) is used by Education, Psychology and Sciences
- **MLA** (Modern Language Association) style is used by the Humanities
- **Chicago/Turabian** style is generally used by Business, History, and the Fine Arts

Using APA Style

1-In-text Citations

When citing an author in a text,

1 cite the last name only;

2 give the year of publication in brackets;

3 for a quote (and sometimes also for a paraphrase), give the page number (use 'p.' or 'pp.');

if you put the page number after the date, sometimes you will see a colon ':' instead of 'p.'.

- **At the beginning of the passage with a reporting verb**
e.g. Biesenbach-Lucas (2007, p. 76) emphasizes that L2 students need to focus in class on the forms of making requests and how the forms differ according to the degree of imposition.
- **At the end of the passage in brackets**
L2 students need to focus in class on the forms of making requests and how these forms differ according to the degree of imposition. (Biesenbach-Lucas 2007, p. 76)
- **Citing more than one author**
e.g. Chinese-speaking students probably transfer the request strategies that they normally use in Chinese to the English request e-mails written to professors (Kirkpatrick, 1991, 1993; Nash, 1983; Zhang, 1995a, 1995b).

-Arrange the names in alphabetical order and use a semi-colon to separate them.

-If the work has more than one author, use 'and' between the two surnames ('&' is only used when the citation appears within brackets).

-If two authors have multiple publications; the years are arranged chronologically and letters ('a' and 'b') are used to distinguish works published the same year.

- **Citing indirect sources**

An indirect source is when the ideas of one author are published in another author's text. The following example shows how to signal that:

e.g. Previous findings (Baron, 1998, in Chen, 2006, p. 35) have indicated that writing emails of request to people higher in status in the workplace can be perceived as distressing activity.

- **Citing texts with no authors**

Use the name of the organization or institution in place of the author's name. The first time you use the name of the organization, provide an acronym e.g 'the Ministry of Education (MoE)'; you can then continue to cite this institution using the acronym.

- **Citing internet source**

Include author, year and page. If there is no author, use the name of the institution (if this information is not taken from an institution, it may well not be an appropriate academic source).

If there is no year of publication, you can put 'n.d.' in place of the year; this means 'no date'.

- **Citing personal communication**

If you interviewed or emailed an authority who states important information and it cannot be found in a published text citing the information can be as followed:

The principal of the school, Mr Said AlBadri (personal communication, 12 December 2012) maintains that. ...

2-List of References

Task 1: Match each reference entry with its description .

Reference	Description
a- Piller, I. (2002). Passing for a native speaker: Identity and success in second language learning. <i>Journal of Sociolinguistics</i> 6(2), 179–206.	1- A journal article with two authors.
b- Derwing, T. & Rossiter, M. (2003). The effect of pronunciation instruction on the accuracy, fluency and complexity of L2 accented speech. <i>Applied Language Learning</i> 13(1), 1–17.	2- Website article with no author.
c-Roberts, C., Davies, E. & Jupp, T. (1992). <i>Language and discrimination</i> . London: Longman.	3- Website article with an author.
d-Chik, A. (2012). Digital gameplay for autonomous foreign language learning: Gamers' and language teachers' perspectives. In H. Reinders (Ed.), <i>Digital games in language learning and teaching</i> (pp. 95–114). London: Palgrave Macmillan.	4- A journal article with one author.
e-Republic of Turkey Ministry of Education. (n.d.). <i>National Education Statistics 2012–2013</i> . Retrieved 12 January 2014, from www.meb.gov.tr/english/minister.html .	5- A book.
f- Morley, J. (n.d.). <i>Academic Phrasebank</i> . Retrieved 11 June 2011, from www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk .	6- A chapter in a book
g -Brown, P. & Levinson, S. (1987). <i>Politeness: Some universals in language usage</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.	

Task 2 : Discuss the following questions.

- 1- Which order are the place of publication and the name of the publishing company written?
- 2- How is citing a website different from a published work?
- 3- If this were your List of References, in which order would you put these seven publications? Do you number them?