Citing References

Prof. Rahmouna ZIDANE

Department of English

University of TLEMCEN

Citing References

- Referencing enables the researcher to avoid plagiarism and make sure that the research work is credible.

- Particular style guides are followed when writing a research work or a thesis.

- In the social sciences, the APA (American Psychological Association) style is used for referencing and crediting the sources of data.

APA Style (6th Edition)

- The APA Style is an author-date system that relies on a set of conventions. Among its principles, one can cite the following:

➢ If the writer's name is unknown, a shortened version of the title is used.

➢ If the year of publication is unknown, the abbreviation "n.d." is utilized.

➢ When citing quotations, the page number is mentioned. If there is not a page number, it is replaced by the abbreviation "para." followed by the paragraph number.

■ An in-text citation is used when quoting, paraphrasing or summarizing others' words. It includes the writer's name, year of publication and page number.

Quoting

- In the APA style, the author's last name, the year of publication and the page number are mentioned to identify the source of the quote.

Example:

"Students are increasingly using the World Wide Web for reference materials, and hence there is a need to be able to cite these sources. There are, however, several difficulties in using such materials" (Oliver, 2008, p. 62).

- If the quote includes less than 40 words, it is inserted within the text. If it consists of 40 words or more, it is presented as a block quotation.

Paraphrasing

- In the APA style, the author's last name, and the year of publication are mentioned to identify the source of the paraphrase. The page number is optional. However, writers are encouraged to mention it.

Example :

Learners are employing the internet for the purpose of exploiting sources of information. Therefore, it is necessary to be skilled in crediting these references. Nevertheless, numerous intricacies appear when utilizing such data sources (Oliver, 2008).

Summarizing

- In the APA style, the author's last name, and the year of publication are mentioned to identify the source of the summary. The page number is optional. However, writers are encouraged to mention it.

Example :

Learners must be skilled in crediting the information sources exploited from the internet (Oliver, 2008).

Writing a Bibliography

- In a bibliography, all the works are listed in alphabetical order and the titles of books and periodicals are written in italics.

- The reference must include the writer's name, publication date, title of the work and publication information.

- An electronic reference should comprise the writer's name, the publication date, title and publication data in addition to the expression "Retrieved from" followed by a web page address or URL (the Uniform Resource Locator).

The following examples give an idea about the way of referencing in APA:

- **A book :**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (year). *Title*. Place of Publication : Publisher.

Example :

Oliver, P. (2008). *Writing Your Thesis*. London: Sage Publications Ltd.

- **A chapter in a book:**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (year). Title of chapter. In Editor's First Initial. Editor's Last Name (Ed.). *Title of book*. Place of Publication : Publisher. Page numbers.

Example :

Steane, P. & Burton, S. (2004). Writing the Thesis. In S. Burton & P. Steane (Eds.). *Surviving Your Thesis*. London: Routledge. 178-194.

Writing a Bibliography

- **A journal article:**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (year). Title of article. *Journal title*. Volume number (issue number), Page numbers.

- **An unpublished thesis or dissertation:**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (year). Title of thesis or dissertation (unpublished thesis or dissertation). University ,Place.

Writing a Bibliography

- **A web page with an author :**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (year). Web page title. Retrieved from **URL**.

- **A web page with no author :**

Web page title. (year). Retrieved from **URL.**

Citing References

- Referencing is a crucial aspect that helps to ensure the credibility of the research work and avoid ethical issues.

- When writing a research paper, in-text citations and references should be presented in a proper and consistent way.

References

- Glenn, C., and Gray, L. (2008). *The Writer's Harbrace Handbook, Brief*. USA: Thomson Learning, Inc.

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- Perrin, R. (2012). *Pocket Guide to APA Style.* USA: Wadsworth.

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