

The Essay: Citations

What are citations?

- Citations are how we give credit to the work that we reference in our essays
- There are two parts to a citation: in-text citations and a works cited page.

When to use in-text citations.

- **When quoting any words that are not your own.**
- **When summarizing facts and ideas from a source.**
- **When paraphrasing a source.**

Keys to Parenthetical Citations

Readability

- **Keep references brief**
- **Give only information needed to identify the source on your Works Cited page**
- **Do not repeat unnecessary information**

Handling Quotes in Your Text

Author's last name and page number(s) of quote must appear in the text. For example:

Romantic poetry is characterized by the “spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings” (Wordsworth 263).

Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a “spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings” (263).

Handling Parenthetical Citations

Sometimes more information is necessary.
For example, More than one author with the
same last name:

(W. Wordsworth 23); (D. Wordsworth 224)

More than one work by the same author:
(Joyce, Portrait 121); (Joyce, Ulysses 556)

Different volumes of a multivolume work: (1:
336)

Citing indirect sources: (Johnson qtd. in
Boswell 2)

Handling Parenthetical Citations

If the source has no known author, then use an abbreviated version of the title:

Full Title: “California Cigarette Tax Deters Smokers” Citation: (“California” A14)

If the source is only one page in length or is a web page with no apparent pagination: Source: Dave Poland’s “Hot Button” web column Citation: (Poland para. 3)

Sample Works Cited Page

Smith 36

Works Cited

Adorno, Theodor. "Extracts from *Minima Moralia: Reflections from Damaged Life*."

Continental Aesthetics Reader. Ed. Clive Cazeaux. Florence, KY: Routledge, 2000. 234-256. Print.

Bernard L., et al. "Dramatism as Ontology or Epistemology: A Symposium." *Communication Quarterly* 33(1985): 17-33. Print.

Burke, Kenneth. *Attitudes Toward History*. 3rd ed. Berkeley: California UP, 1984. Print.

Works Cited

- **Most citations should contain the following basic information:**
- **Author's name**
- **Title of work**
- **Publication information**

Works Cited: Books

Basic Format: Lastname, Firstname. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of Publication.

Gleick, James. Chaos: Making a New Science. New York: Penguin, 1987. Print.

Palmer, William J. Dickens and New Historicism. New York: St. Martin's, 1997. Print.

Works Cited: Web

Web Source Format: Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). “Article Name.” Name of Site. Version number. Name of institution/ organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher). Date of last update. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Example:

Bernstein, Mark. “10 Tips on Writing the Living Web.” A List Apart: For People Who Make Websites. A List Apart Mag., 16 Aug. 2002. Web. 4 May 2009.