



## Basic In-Text Citation Style Format

from <https://libguides.css.edu/APA7thEd/Citations>

When using APA style, there are two types of in-text citations that can be used within the body of the paper to help the reader locate the corresponding reference in the reference list.

The two types of in-text citations are *parenthetical citations* and *narrative citations*.

A parenthetical citation is a citation where the author(s) and the article's date are listed **at the end of the sentence in parentheses (before the sentence-final period)**.

A narrative citation is a citation where the author(s) and the article's date are part of the narrative; therefore, a **narrative citation appears in the body of the sentence** rather than at the end of the sentence completely in parentheses. For a narrative citation, the author/authors' name are a literal part of the sentence, and only the date, which appears right after the author/authors' names, is included in parentheses.

When an article is authored by only **one author**, that author's surname (last name) is the only name listed in the in-text citation.

If an article is authored by **two authors**, both of those authors' surnames are listed in the in-text citation. For parenthetical citations, the two authors' surnames are connected with an ampersand. For narrative citations (those that appear in the narrative part of the sentence), the two authors' surnames are connected by the word *and*. See the examples below.

If an article is authored by **three or more authors**, only the first author's surname is listed and the other authors are represented by the Latin expression *et al.* which means "and others." Notice that there is no period after the Latin word *et* but there is always a period after the Latin word *al.*

| Number of Authors     | Parenthetical Citation Example | Narrative Citation Example |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| One Author            | (Washington, 2020).            | Washington (2020)          |
| Two Authors           | (Wong & Kim, 2020).            | Wong and Kim (2020)        |
| Three or more authors | (Hernandez et al., 2020).      | Hernandez et al. (2020)    |

*Note.* Adapted from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* by the American Psychological Association, 2020, Table 8.1, p. 266 (<https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>). Copyright 2020 by the American Psychological Association.

**NOTE: This document has been modified for use in PSY 225.**