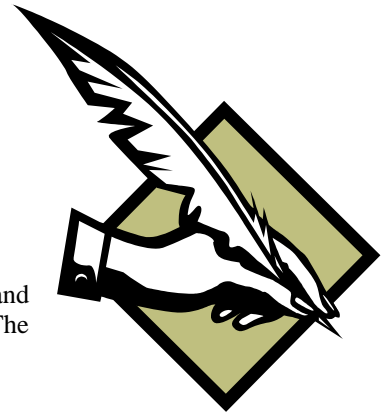


# Writing Workshop: Preparing Parenthetical Citations



You must give credit to your sources of information by including the appropriate information (usually the author and the page number) in parentheses after the words or ideas taken from that source. Preparing parenthetical citations to document your sources is fairly straight forward, and by creating them you make your sources easily accessible to your reader. The following guidelines will help you to cite your sources properly.

## Using Paraphrases

### **Basic Citation**

After entering the Army, trainees undergo basic training at an Army training center. They learn such fundamental military skills as marksmanship, drill, first aid, and land navigation (Spencer 145). Trainees also undergo intensive ...

### **Basic Citation with Author in Text**

Assuming the presidency after the assassination of James A. Garfield, Chester A. Arthur was the fourth Vice-President to succeed to the presidency upon the death of the Chief Executive. Thomas C. Reeves writes that most Americans regarded Chester as a machine politician, someone who would do little while in office (76). The president forcefully supported civil service reform, however, and ...

### **Multiple Citations**

Animals and plants are linked in a basic pattern of nature that is often called the “web of life” (Harper 146). This vital pattern can easily be seen in a garden or backyard. There, many kinds of animals keep themselves alive by eating some plants. Thus, animals destroy plant life; however, as Laurence notes, much of the food that plants need come from the body wastes of animals and from their decayed bodies after the animals die (123). This basic pattern of nature also keeps the total number of living things in balance.

## Using Direct Quotations

### **Basic Citation**

That night, after learning that Mr. Radley had filled the knot-hole with cement, Scout saw that Jem “had been crying; his face was dirty in the right places” (Lee 63).

### **Basic Citation with Author in Text**

Having been recently awoken and disturbed by a series of tapping noises outside his study, staring into the darkness, the Poe’s speaker explains, “Deep into that darkness peering, / long I stood there wondering, fearing, / Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before (19-21).

## Other Citations

Works by two or three authors (Hughes and Blevins 102)

More than three authors (Kim et al. 427) [*Et* is Latin for “and” while *Al* is short for *alii*, meaning “others.”]

Quotation from other source (qtd. In Stein 219)

Article – no author (“New Uses for Old Cars” 14)

Online Encyclopedia – Entry Title (“Motion Pictures”)

Website or Webpage – no article (*Ancient Greece*)

Website Article with Author – (Lyle)

Website Article – no Author – “Dance in Ancient Greece”

Film (*Avatar*)

Play in Poetic Verse (I.ii.79-84) [**Act, scene, line numbers**]

Poem (24-28) [**Line numbers**]

**Other Citations Not Listed** – See the Purdue Online Writing Lab at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/> for excellent MLA resource information.