

HANDOUT: USING IN TEXT CITATIONS



MLA CITATION EXAMPLES

Original passage from page 248 of Ashley Montagu's book, *The American Way of Life*:

To be human is to weep. The human species is the only one in the whole world of animate nature that sheds tears. The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect that usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry. And this, among other things, is what American parents – with the best intentions in the world – have achieved for the American male. It is very sad. If we feel like it, let us all have a good cry – and clear our minds of those cobwebs of confusion, which have for so long prevented us from understanding the ineluctable necessity of crying.

Now look at the various ways you can use the opinion expressed in the passage.

- Author, Montagu claims that American men have a diminished capacity to be human because they have been trained by their culture not to cry (248).
- In his book *The American Way of Life*, Ashley Montagu writes, “The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect which usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry” (248).
- According to Montagu, “To be human is to weep” (248).
- “If we feel like it,” writes Montagu, “let us have a good cry – and clear our minds of those cobwebs of confusion which have for so long prevented us from understanding the intellectual necessity of crying” (248).
- One distinguished anthropologist calls the American male’s reluctance to cry “a lessening of his capacity to be human” (Montagu 248).
- Montagu finds it “very sad” that American men have a “trained inability” to shed tears (248).
- When my grandfather died, all the members of my family – men and women alike – wept openly. We have never been ashamed to cry. As Montagu writes, “to be human is to weep” (248). I am sure we are more human, and in better mental and physical health, because we are able to express our feelings without artificial restraints.
- Montagu argues that it is both unnatural and harmful for American males not to cry:

To be human is to weep. The human species is the only one in the whole world of animate nature that sheds tears. The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect that usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry.... It is very sad. (248)

Paraphrase: (see our additional handouts on paraphrases and credible research)

Some Reminders and Tips!

LONG QUOTATIONS

For quotations that are more than four lines of prose or three lines of verse, place quotations in a free-standing block of text and omit quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line, with the entire quote indented **1/2 inch** from the left margin while maintaining double-spacing. Your parenthetical citation should come **after the closing punctuation mark**. When quoting verse, maintain original line breaks. (You should maintain double-spacing throughout your essay.)

For example, when citing more than four lines of prose, use the following examples:

Nelly Dean treats Heathcliff poorly and dehumanizes him throughout her narration:

They entirely refused to have it in bed with them, or even in their room, and I had no more sense, so, I put it on the landing of the stairs, hoping it would be gone on the morrow. By chance, or else attracted by hearing his voice, it crept to Mr. Earnshaw's door, and there he found it on quitting his chamber. Inquiries were made as to how it got there; I was obliged to confess, and in recompense for my cowardice and inhumanity was sent out of the house. (Bronte 78)

ADDING OR OMITTING WORDS IN QUOTATIONS

- If you add a word or words in a quotation, you should put brackets around the words to indicate that they are not part of the original text:

Jan Harold Brunvand, in an essay on urban legends, states, "some individuals [who retell urban legends] make a point of learning every rumor or tale" (78).

- If you omit a word or words from a quotation, you should indicate the deleted word or words by using ellipses, which are three periods (. . .) preceded and followed by a space. For example:

In an essay on urban legends, Jan Harold Brunvand notes that "some individuals make a point of learning every recent rumor or tale . . . and in a short time a lively exchange of details occurs" (78).

THE BASICS:

1. DIRECT QUOTES: (words pulled exactly from another source)

“You would enrage a lifeless stone!” (Baxter 12).

2. DIRECT QUOTES WHERE THE AUTHOR IS MENTIONED IN TEXT:

Baxter exclaims, “You would enrage a lifeless stone!” (12).

3. PARAPHRASE: (take other people’s words and rearrange them. It’s still their IDEA, so you have to cite it.)

Oedipus was furious at the prophet’s refusal to answer (Baxter 12).

4. PARAPHRASE WHERE AUTHOR IS MENTIONED IN TEXT:

Baxter uses metaphor when referring to Teresias as a stone (12).

6. USING MORE THAN ONE WORK BY THE SAME AUTHOR

If you use two things by the same author in your paper, your citation has three things in it: author, abbreviated title and page number.

Ron Weasley shows a more obvious interest in Hermione as he get older (Rowling, *Order* 145).

7. IN-TEXT CITATIONS FOR PRINT SOURCES WITH NO KNOWN AUTHOR

When a source has no known author, use a shortened title of the work instead of an author name, following these guidelines.

- Place the title in quotation marks if it's a short work (such as an article) or italicize it if it's a longer work (e.g. plays, books, television shows, entire Web sites) and provide a page number if it is available.
- Titles longer than a standard noun phrase should be shortened into a noun phrase by excluding articles. For example, *To the Lighthouse* would be shortened to *Lighthouse*.

If the title cannot be easily shortened into a noun phrase, the title should be cut after the first clause, phrase, or punctuation:

- We see so many global warming hotspots in North America likely because this region has "more readily accessible climatic data and more comprehensive programs to monitor and study environmental change . . ." ("Impact of Global Warming").

In this example, since the reader does not know the author of the article, an abbreviated title appears in the parenthetical citation, and the full title of the article appears first at the left-hand margin of its respective entry on the Works Cited page. Thus, the writer includes the title in quotation marks as the signal phrase in the parenthetical citation in order to lead the reader directly to the source on the Works Cited page.

- The Works Cited entry appears as follows:
"The Impact of Global Warming in North America." *Global Warming: Early Signs*. 1999.
www.climatehotmap.org/. Accessed 23 Mar. 2009.

If the title of the work begins with a quotation mark, such as a title that refers to another work, that quote or quoted title can be used as the shortened title. The single quotation marks must be included in the parenthetical, rather than the double quotation.

8. MULTIPLE CITATIONS BY ONE AUTHOR IN ONE PARAGRAPH

If you have more than one citation for one author in one paragraph, put the author’s last name in the first citation only, or, put it in the text in the topic sentence and never within a citation. Then simply put the page number in the parenthesis. CAUTION!! If you have multiple authors cited in one paragraph, you MUST put each author every time.

Handout: Using In-text Citations

APA CITATION EXAMPLES



Original passage from page 248 of Ashley Montagu's book *The American Way of Life*:

To be human is to weep. The human species is the only one in the whole world of animate nature that sheds tears. The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect that usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry. And this, among other things, is what American parents – with the best intentions in the world – have achieved for the American male. It is very sad. If we feel like it, let us all have a good cry – and clear our minds of those cobwebs of confusion, which have for so long prevented us from understanding the ineluctable necessity of crying.

Now, look at the various ways you can use the opinion expressed in the passage.

Montagu (2000) claims that American men have a diminished capacity to be human because they have been trained by their culture not to cry.

In his book *The American Way of Life*, Ashley Montagu writes, "The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect which usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry" (p. 248).

According to Montagu (2000), "To be human is to weep" (p. 248).

"If we feel like it," writes Montagu (2000), "let us have a good cry – and clear our minds of those cobwebs of confusion which have for so long prevented us from understanding the ineluctable necessity of crying" (p. 248).

One distinguished anthropologist calls the American male's reluctance to cry "a lessening of his capacity to be human" (Montagu, 2000, p. 248).

Montagu (2000) finds it "very sad" that American men have a "trained inability" to shed tears (p. 248).

When my grandfather died, all the members of my family – men and women alike – wept openly. We have never been ashamed to cry. As Montagu (2000) writes, "to be human is to weep" (p. 248). I am sure we are more human, and in better mental and physical health, because we are able to express our feelings without artificial restraints.

Montagu (2000) argues that it is both unnatural and harmful for American males not to cry:

To be human is to weep. The human species is the only one in the whole world of animate nature that sheds tears. The trained inability of any human being to weep is a lessening of his capacity to be human – a defect that usually goes deeper than the mere inability to cry.... It is very sad. (p. 248)