

Citations

1. How to quote from other sources?

Direct quotations involve incorporating another person's exact words into your own writing. Used when the language of the original text is too distinct or important for you to paraphrase.

The text needs to be put in **quotation marks**, and the author must be referenced with a **citation**.

Direct quotations are used very rarely in scientific writing, especially in primary-results papers, because the exact wording in technical writing is not as significant as the ideas that are being communicated.

There are two main cases when quotes *are* used, in:

- 1) Epigraphs (a short quotation at the start of a paper or a section, intended to communicate its theme)
- 2) Comment papers (sometimes called Replies).

The original text

"Sufficient energy is available in fluid/acoustic systems to power elements of active flow control systems. Acoustic energy reclamation has been demonstrated using an electromechanical Helmholtz resonator excited by an incident acoustic field, successfully self-powering an electret microphone. The self-powered microphone calibration shows good agreement with a conventionally powered case." (from IMG Paper AIAA-2002-2702, "Technology Development for Self-Powered Sensors," by Horowitz et al.)

Examples of direct quotations (using a numerical referencing style)

According to Horowitz et al., "Sufficient energy is available in fluid/acoustic systems to power elements of active flow control systems." [1].

Horowitz et al. claim, "Sufficient energy is available in fluid/acoustic systems to power elements of active flow control systems" [1].

"Sufficient energy is available in fluid/acoustic systems to power elements of active flow control systems," Horowitz et al. report [1].

Examples of indirect quotations

When Horowitz et al. concluded their experiment in powering an electret microphone with reclaimed acoustic energy, they found that the results were equivalent to "a conventionally powered case" [1].

As Horowitz et al. have demonstrated, it is possible to convert acoustic energy into electrical energy "using an electromechanical Helmholtz resonator excited by an incident acoustic field" [1].

2. How to refer to an author's work?

When you refer to, summarize or rephrase another researcher's work (or ideas, data, methods etc) in your text, you must add a **citation** with the **paraphrased text**.

There are various styles for citing authors in your text. The four styles below contain the same information, but the focus is different:

(Note: These examples use the APA referencing style).

STYLE 1: Smith (1999) found that French engineering students showed a higher IQ compared with...

(easiest style to use; easy to read; focus on researcher; used when you want to compare two authors)

STYLE 2: A study of IQ in French engineering students is presented by Smith (1999)...

(focus on the result rather than the author; typical style *but* passive voice = longer, heavier sentence)

STYLE 3: One study focused on IQ in French engineering student and found that... (Smith, 1999).

(full focus on study and result, not author; indirect reference to author; citation at the end of the sentence for easy reading)

3. Different referencing styles

There are many different types of referencing styles, for example: APA, IEEE, Harvard, and ACS.

If you are submitting an article for submission to a journal, you need to check 'Guidelines for Authors' to find out what style to use. If you are writing a report or article for your tutor, check their requirements!

The referencing style states how citations are written in-text AND how references need to be formatted in the reference section, or bibliography, at the end of the article/report. All citations need to be referenced in the bibliography.

You also need to check the format for citing two or more authors.

For example (APA style):

Two authors

One study found that the most important element in the system is X (Gass & Varonis, 1984).
Gass and Varonis (1984) found that the most important element in the system is X

Three to five authors:

First citation: (Tremblay, Richer, Lachance, & Cote, 2010)
Subsequent citations: (Tremblay et al., 2010)

Six or more authors:

(Norris-Shortle et al., 2006)

Bibliography

Wallwork, A. (2016). English for Writing Research Papers. 2nd edition. Springer, pp375

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