

APA7 REFERENCING SYSTEM YEAR 8

When you **reference** you are acknowledging and giving credit to the author or creator of information you have used in your assignment.

It is important that you always acknowledge using someone else's work when writing an assignment. If you do not acknowledge another's work it is called **plagiarism**, a type of theft and is considered cheating.

All types of information can be referenced, including: ideas, quotes, images, data, graphs, music and audio, video, artificial intelligence, and more. These come from a variety of sources, such as books and webpages.

References can be written in different ways, or **standards**, each with different rules. The standard and the rules that we use at St Patrick's College is from the American Psychological Association 7th Edition, or **APA7**.

References have different parts, or elements. In APA7 these elements are separated with full stops. Think of each element as a separate sentence in the reference.

ELEMENTS OF A REFERENCE

Author	Year	Title	Source
Writer	Year	Book title	Publisher
Organisation or group author	Month	Web page title	Website
Editor	Date	Article title	Journal
Photographer	Season	Image title	Newspaper
Director		Video title	Magazine

Here are some examples of APA7 references using these elements:

BOOK

Author.	(Year).	Title.	Source.
Steele, P.	(2018).	<i>Vikings.</i>	Dorling Kindersley.

WEBPAGE

Author.	(Year).	Title.	Source.
Nessie619.	(2017, July 24).	<i>Medieval crime museum.</i>	Atlas Obscura.
https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/medieval-crime-museum			

IN-TEXT CITATION

Another important part of referencing correctly is providing an in-text citation. An in-text citation shows your teacher where in your work you have used someone else’s ideas or information.

The idea of an in-text citation is to link between where you have used someone else’s ideas or information in your work, to the details about the source in your reference list.

To make an in-text citation, simply put the author’s surname and the year of publication in brackets directly after using someone else’s ideas or information:

“Vikings travelled across Europe and beyond to buy and sell goods” (Steele, 2018, p. 14).

“Horribly creative torture devices and shame punishments line the walls of this chilling museum” (Nessie619, 2017).

REFERENCE LIST

All of the references that you have used in your work must be put into a list. That list is called a reference list and will go at the end of your assignment. Reference lists are ordered alphabetically. This is so that your in-text references can be found easily by the reader. Avoid sorting your reference list by format or, if using a lot of images, by figure number.

Look at the example below:

Kadia, M. K. (2024). Shogun. In *The World Book encyclopedia* (Vol. 17, p. 433). World Book.

Kadia, M. K. (2025). Shogun. In *World Book Student*. <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar507760>

Murrell, D. (2009). *Knight*. QED Publishing.

Nessie619. (2017, July 24). *Medieval crime museum*. Atlas Obscura. <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/medieval-crime-museum>

Science Museum. (2019, April 25). *Bubonic plague: The first pandemic*. <https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/objects-and-stories/medicine/bubonic-plague-first-pandemic>

Steele, P. (2018). *Vikings*. Dorling Kindersley.

VOCAB LIST

APA7	American Psychological Association 7th Ed. An international standard of referencing.
IN-TEXT CITATION	A brief note in your work of the author and year that shows where you have used a source, usually in brackets.
PLAGIARISM	To take the work of another and to use it as your own, without proper referencing, a form of cheating.
PUBLICATION DETAILS	Information about who wrote a text, what it is called, who published it, and when it was published.
REFERENCE (TO REFER)	A mention of credit and details of a source of information used in research or study.
REFERENCE LIST	A list of all of the references used in your work, ordered alphabetically and placed at the end of your assignment.
SOURCE	The container of a piece of information or content.
STANDARD	Set of agreed rules or conditions, often named.

FOR MORE REFERENCING EXAMPLES GO TO THE APA7 REFERENCING GUIDE ON THE LIBRARY WEBSITE.