

Examples of successful citation in papers: Name-date style

(These examples use APA style for format.)

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When you refer to the work of other authors or researchers, you need to cite your sources. In addition, you need to work the citation into the text of your paper clearly and concisely. There are basically three ways to do this:

1. Quote the exact words from the source. Do this only if the words are particularly memorable or expressive.
2. Name the author or source, and then state the information from that source in your own words (paraphrase). This is an effective way to state the results of specific studies or experiments.
3. Simply state the information, and then note the source of the information. This is the most common way to cite general information rather than specific studies.

The following examples and pointers illustrate how each of these citation methods can be used effectively.

Example One: Quotation

Pointers for using quotes:

- **Don't just drop the quote into your text; be sure it fits logically and grammatically.**
- **Don't string quotes together, in effect making other authors write your paper.**

Example of a quote from a paper by Pamela Tsing, SUNFEST 2007

Nanotechnology is an area of study that has garnered much recent attention in the scientific research community due to its broad applications and powerful potential. The term “nanotechnology” was first defined by Tokyo Science University Professor Norio Taniguchi as follows: “ ‘Nano-technology’ mainly consists of the processing of, separation, consolidation, and deformation of materials by one atom or by one molecule” (1974, p. 3). Generally, the theme of nanotechnology consists of the control of matter with atomic precision, resulting in devices or materials with enhanced properties that may serve to revolutionize many technologies.

This citation goes with the following entry in the list of references at the end of the paper:

Reference:

Taniguchi, N. (1974). On the Basic Concept of ‘Nano-Technology’: Part II. *Proceedings from the International Conference on Production Engineering*. London, Part II. *British Society of Precision Engineering*. 1-5.

Example Two: Summary of results, author acknowledged

Pointers for summarizing:

- Usually use present tense, as if you are describing a work of art.
- Use past tense to highlight specific studies or results that provided breakthroughs or groundwork.
- Be sure your reader can follow any switches in verb time (present to past, past to present).

Sample from a paper by Viktor Orekhov, SUNFEST 2007

To provide some insight into the mechanisms behind dynamic running in animals, several studies have been done which look at running in animals ranging from cockroaches to kangaroos.

One conclusion made from these studies has been the importance of compliant legs in storing and converting energy. Alexander (1990) presents three ways in which natural systems have incorporated the use of springs in legged locomotion. The first of these is the storage of external kinetic energy as strain energy in legs to reduce energy lost to the environment. The second is the use of return springs to reverse the direction of leg swing, and the third is the prevention of excessive impact forces and chatter by using elastic foot pads. In an effort to understand the underlying mechanisms, Blickhan and Full (1993) demonstrated that despite variations in the number, length, shape, and positioning of legs, a wide range of animals could be accurately modeled as simple bouncing monopods. This model, also referred to as the spring loaded inverted pendulum (SLIP) model, has since been applied to many running robots.

This passage contains two references. Each one uses the convention of referring to the cited paper by the author's name and publication date: "Alexander (1990) presents [...]" Blickhan and Full (1993) demonstrated...." Note the variation in verb tense. How does the use of present and past tense follow the pointers given above?

References:

Alexander, R.M. (1990). Three Uses for Springs in Legged Locomotion. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*. Vol 9. No 2. 53-61.

Blickhan, R., Full, R.J. (1993). Similarity in multilegged locomotion: Bouncing like a monopod. *Journal of Comparative Physiology*. 509-517.

Example Three: Statement of information, sources acknowledged

From a paper by Ryan Li, SUNFEST 2007

Note that verb time is simple present in most cases, as the author (Li) is stating general truths. In the one case in which he cites the author(s) of a study by name, he uses the verb form *have also demonstrated*. This form, present perfect, fits with present (or non past) verb-time focus, but indicates that a particular action was done by a particular group of researchers.

[Another material being considered for use in photoencapsulation and cartilage tissue engineering is hyaluronic acid (HA).] HA is a natural biomaterial comprised of alternating residues of N-acetyl-D-glucosamine and D-glucuronic acid. A natural component of ECM, HA is believed to be crucial in tissue remodeling and has demonstrated high-affinity binding to cell surface receptors CD44, ICAM-1, and RHAMM (Underhill & Toole, 2004). HA is an attractive scaffold material both for its readily modifiable structure and for its cell-mediated degradative properties (Menzel & Farr, 1998). Photopolymerized methacrylated HA scaffolds have been shown to encapsulate articular and auricular chondrocytes in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* settings (Nettles et al., 2004; Chung et al., 2006a). HA constructs with encapsulated chondrocytes have exhibited mechanical and biochemical properties comparable to that of native cartilage (Chung et al., 2006b). Gerecht, Burdick, Ferrelra, Townsend, and Langer (2007) have also demonstrated that HA hydrogels support the maintenance of differentiation potential of encapsulated human embryonic stem cells. However, the ability of HA to support the growth and chondrogenesis of MSCs after photoencapsulation is as yet undetermined.

References:

- Chung, C., Mesa, J., Randolph, M.A., Yaremchuk, M., Burdick, J.A. (2006a). Influence of gel properties on neocartilage formation by auricular chondrocytes photoencapsulated in hyaluronic acid networks. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research: Part A*. Vol. 77 No. 3. 518-525.
- Chung, C., Mesa, J., Miller, G.J., Randolph, M.A., Gill, T.J., Burdick, J.A. (2006b). Effects of Auricular Chondrocyte Expansion on Neocartilage Formation in Photocrosslinked Hyaluronic Acid networks. *Tissue Engineering*. Vol. 9. 2665-2674
- Gerecht, S., Burdick, J.A., Ferrelra, L.S., Townsend, S.A., Langer, R. (2007). Hyaluronic Acid Hydrogel for Controlled Self-Renewal and Differentiation of Human Embryonic Stem Cells. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Vol. 27. 11298-11303.
- Menzel, E.J., Farr, C. (1998). Hyaluronidase and its substrate hyaluronan: biochemistry, biological activity and therapeutic uses. *Cancer Letter*. Vol. 131. 3-11.
- Nettles, D.L., Vail, T.P., Morgan, M.T., Grinstaff, M.W., Setton, L.A. (2004). Photocrosslinkable Hyaluronan as a Scaffold for Articular Cartilage Repair. *Annals of Biomedical Engineering*. Vol. 32. No. 3. 391-397.

Underhill, C.B., Toole, B.P. (1981). Receptors for hyaluronate on the surface of parent and virus-transformed cell lines: Binding and Aggregation Studies. *Experimental Cell Research*. Vol. 131. 419-423.

Linking citations to references

Each in-text citation must match an entry in the **List of References** at the end of the paper. The only exception is that citations from some sort of personal communication do not need references, as they are not accessible to the reader.

For more about creating the list of references in APA style, refer to these sources:

- General information: <http://gethelp.library.upenn.edu/PORT/documentation/>
- Electronic sources: <http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html>

The excerpts used in this document are from these papers (used with permission from the authors):

Li, R. (2007). *Mechanotransduction in Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Cartilage Tissue Engineering*.

Orekhov, V. (2007). *Design of a Variably Compliant Leg Using Shape Deposition Manufacturing*.

Tsing, P. (2007). *Electrospinning Natural Polymers for Tissue Engineering Applications*.

SUNFEST = NSF Summer Undergraduate Fellowship in Sensor Technologies, held annually at the University of Pennsylvania.