APA Tips Paraphrasing and Direct Quotes

These articles were first found through the LIRN Database.

- Got to the link: lirn.net
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**RULE #1**: Many times, you will find newspaper and magazine articles that quote or make a reference to a study conducted by a university department or non-profit research group like The Pew National Research Center. In this situation, the newspaper article would be the secondary source and the original study would be the primary source. Citing something like this can get tricky because you want to cite both the primary and secondary source. Therefore, both sources should also appear in your reference list, too! When citing quotes, returning back to the primary source will be the preferred method; however, if you can’t, try mentioning both sources by explaining who wrote the original, primary study to show that they are an authority or expert on the subject while still citing the quote from the secondary source, like this:

**Example of reference list entry:**

**Secondary Source:**


**Primary Source:**


Example of the in-text citations:

Paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words):

The most current research on the relationship between the age of an individual when he or she gets married and divorce rates reveals that age matters more than whether or not that couple lived together before marriage (Jacobsen, 2015).

Direct quote (use quotation marks for exact words taken from a source):

One University of Utah professor who studies family and consumerism, Nicholas Wolfinger (2015), found that the age of the two people who marry best determines the success of that marriage, and he suggests "not too old, not too young, right in the middle" (Jacobsen, 2015, para. 3) is the best recipe for a successful marriage for most people.
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**RULE #2:** This is an example of a newspaper article we found on the Gale Opposing Viewpoints Database (accessed through the databases on lirn.net). We were able to find its primary source online through a simple Google search. **Always use the original, primary source if it is available.**


*Example of the in-text citations:*

Paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words):
Several big name companies like PayPal are showing their support for the LGBT community by boycotting North Carolina (Roldan & Kropf, 2016).

Direct quote (use quotation marks for exact words taken from a source):
Standing up against North Carolina’s anti-LGBT law, PayPal decided not to locate its global headquarters in Charlotte, costing the state “400 jobs because the law prevents cities from enacting non-discrimination policies tied to gender identity” (Roldan & Kropf, 2016, para. 10).
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**RULE #3**: If the primary source is unavailable, it may have been removed or there may be a charge to access it. Then, use the source citation from the database. The ProQuest, Gale Cengage, and Statista databases contain a citation generator. Remember to select APA 6th format.


**Examples of the in-text citations:**

Paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words):
In any case involving abortion, the legal burden placed upon women has not seemed to evolve since the 1960’s (Gonzales-Rojas, 2015).

Direct quote (use quotation marks for exact words taken from a source):
Pro-choice advocates claim not much has changed in the eyes of the law, stating, “our biggest challenges today are the ones we were facing decades ago” (Gonzales-Rojas, 2015, p.157).
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**RULE #4:** Between 3-5 authors, mention all of them first in the in-text citation, then use *et al.*


*Example of the in-text citations:*

Paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words):

**First time you cite:** As culture diversifies, marketing research becomes more difficult (Singam, Karunagaran, Pandiyar, Subramanian, & Govindan, 2014).

**All other times:** Researchers also note the increase in cell-phone and internet communications as a reason for the recent ambiguity in market research (Singam et al., 2014).

Direct quote (same rules of ‘et al.’ apply):

Research has found that, “consumer choices are becoming ever more variable and unpredictable due to significant lifestyle and demographic changes and improved communication” (Singam et al., 2014, p.309).
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**Rule #5:** For magazine or news articles with no author, start with the title of the article.


*Example of the in-text citations:*

Paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words):

Research found a trend of government assistance among fast-food franchise employees (“Cheap Fast,” 2013).

Direct quote (use quotation marks for exact words taken from a source):

In an article entitled, “Cheap Fast Food?,” (2013) researchers found that “fifty-two percent of families of fast food workers receive assistance from public programs like Medicaid, food stamps, the Earned Income Tax Credit and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families… at an estimated cost to taxpayers of $7 billion each year” (para.1).