

# A Quick Guide to Harvard Referencing | Citation Examples

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Referencing is an important part of academic writing.

It tells your readers what sources you've used and how to find them.

Harvard is the most common referencing style used in UK universities.

In Harvard style, the author and year are cited in-text,

and full details of the source are given in a reference list.

In-text citation

Referencing is an essential academic skill (Pears and Shields, 2019).

Reference list entry

Pears, R. and Shields, G. (2019) Cite them right: The essential referencing guide. 11th edn. London: MacMillan.

## Harvard in-text citation

A Harvard in-text citation appears in brackets beside any quotation or paraphrase of a source. It gives the last name of the author(s) and the year of publication, as well as a page number or range locating the passage referenced, if applicable:

The novel begins with the grim image of the train passengers' faces, which are described as 'pale yellow, the colour of the fog' (Dostoyevsky, 2004, p. 5).

Note that 'p.' is used for a single page, 'pp.' for multiple pages (e.g. 'pp. 1–5').

An in-text citation usually appears immediately after the quotation or paraphrase in question. It may also appear at the end of the relevant sentence, as long as it's clear what it refers to.

When your sentence already mentions the name of the author, it should not be repeated in the citation:

Woolf introduces the essay's topic as 'women and fiction' (2000, p. 5), going on to discuss the various connotations of the phrase.

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## Number of authors

## In-text citation example

1 author	(Davis, 2019)
2 authors	(Davis and Barrett, 2019)
3 authors	(Davis, Barrett and McLachlan, 2019)
4+ authors	(Davis <i>et al.</i> , 2019)

- **Sources with multiple authors**

- When you cite a source with up to three authors, cite all authors' names. For four or more authors, list only the first name, followed by '*et al.*':

## **Sources with no page numbers**

Some sources, such as websites, often don't have page numbers.

If the source is a short text, you can simply leave out the page number.

With longer sources, you can use an alternate locator

such as a subheading or paragraph number

if you need to specify where to find the quote:

(Scribbr, para. 4)