How to Cite Research Sources in Your Research Paper

Citing sources or making a citation in your paper means you are referencing information you obtained/learned while reading the research and it is "relevant" (important) to you topic.

1. Titles of book, magazine, manuals internet sites are in italics and titles of articles (that come out of a magazine or newspaper or from an internet site) use quotation marks ("Cell Phones Causes Brain Damages" sponsored by *Med Tech* website).

2. Sources should include the following information in the paper when you introduce the source for the first time: author and title of the source (i.e. book title, article title, etc). For example: In the book, Rain Forests Falter, by Jack Smith, he states the forests with viable plant life are depleting at a rate 2,000 or more acres per day. This fact means we could potentially be losing a cure for cancer because many unidentified plant species are being destroyed forever.

3. If there is no author –just state the title of the source (i.e. internet article). Oceans contain more garbage than landfills ("Today's Oceans").

4. Once you have introduced the source for the first time then you only have to cite the author's last name or the title of the article in the parentheses after the fact/s. For example: Animals living near rain forests are beginning to inhabit human living quarters due to the lost of their homes (Smith 14).

5. If you use a direct quote (word for word) from a book then you must include the page number after the quote in parentheses. For example: "If we do not stop the vast amount of rain forest destruction, we will witness environmental consequences such as a larger hole in the ozone" (Smith 17).

6. All "uncommon" facts should have citation; common knowledge facts do not need citation (such as the number of feet in a mile).

7. Rule of Thumb: use a citation (or more) in each body paragraph.

8. The Works Cited page should "match" what sources you used in the research paper! If you used 3 sources in the paper than they should all appear in MLA format on the Works Cited page.