Check List for APA style papers

Cover page:
Page number and first two to three words of full title
Running head
  Left justified
  Only first letter capitalized
  50 characters or less all caps brief title
Title reflects findings or at least the independent and dependent vars
Name and ABC

Introduction
Does NOT have the word introduction
Title on first page
References are last names and dates only
Use “as cited in” if you did not read the original article
Names and dates go together at beginning or end of sentence
Clear statement of issue being addressed (purpose of study)
Explain theoretical basis for research
Present studies that both support and contradict your ideas
Clear explanation of why articles lead up to your experiment
Brief explanation of your experiment and how it expands on previous research
Clear statement of hypothesis
Rationale for the hypothesis

Method
Do not use male or female
Design is a separate section
Note whether design is correlational, experimental, between or within, and name of design (e.g. bivalent, factorial, functional)
Apparatus if you have equipment
Describe stimuli and where you got them from
Materials – be sure to describe end points of scales
Procedure tells what participants did

Results
All statistical abbreviations are italicized
Parentheses are used ONLY when the statistics are in the middle of a sentence
I looked up EXACTLY HOW to report the statistic
Numbers are interpreted for the reader

Discussion
Explain whether the hypothesis was supported
Relate your results to the literature
Relate the results to theory
Present alternative explanations for results
Discuss (non-trivial) limitations of the study
What are the implications of the study
Directions for future research