

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 _____