Parenthetical Documentation.

References in your paper should direct the reader to specific works on the Works Cited page.

Basic: (Author’s last name and page number)

It is usually best to place the citation at the end of a sentence, and often it can go at the end of the paragraph, as long as it is not confusing. Notice that in short quotations within a paragraph the citation is outside the quotation marks, BUT the final punctuation occurs after the citation.

Sample:

“There are many good reasons for a Christian to abstain from the social use of alcohol, but there is more to the virtue of temperance than merely not drinking certain beverages. Temperance is, unfortunately, one of those words that has changed its meaning. It now usually means teetotalism” (Lewis 61).

This parenthetical documentation would point the reader to the following entry on the Works Cited page.


Readability. Some samples.

1. Author's name in text.

Sample:

There is more to the idea of temperance than being a nasty-spirited nephalist. C.S. Lewis has discussed this very point (60-64).

2. A work by multiple authors.

If there are 3 or fewer authors, cite them all in the parentheses.

Sample:

"Another aspect of the presuppositional departure from traditional orthodoxy is its critique of theistic evidence" (Sproul, Gerstner, Lindsley 264).

This parenthetical documentation would point the reader to the following entry on the Works Cited page.


If there are more than three authors you may cite the first author followed by et.al. (Smith et al. 250-51)