Council of Science Editors (CSE)  
Documentation Style


**Paper Format**

The text should be preceded by an abstract summarizing the entire paper. The abstract should not include citations. The text itself should be divided into the following sections:

**Introduction:** This section provides background information and places the remainder of the paper in the context of relevant scientific developments.

**Methods:** This section should describe materials, instrumentation, procedures, and potential hazards in detail sufficient to permit the reader to duplicate the work exactly.

**Results:** This section describes the results, indicating whether or not they were expected, and why. Possible errors should be mentioned here as well.

**Discussion:** This section analyzes the results and explains their significance, including their implications for further research.

**End Matter:** This portion of the document includes the reference list and any appendices or indexes.

**Citations**

In the main text, information requiring documentation must be followed by a citation of the source or reference. CSE style permits the use of any of three citation types: Citation-Sequence, Name-Year, or Citation-Name.

**Citation-Sequence System:** This system uses Arabic numerals to cite sources in the order in which they are referenced in the text. A reference list included in the end matter lists these sources in the same order. The numerals used in the text and the reference list may be in either a normal font enclosed in parentheses, or in superscript without parentheses. For instance, if a reference written by Smith is the first one cited in the text, it will be designated by the numeral 1, and the work by Smith will be number 1 on the reference list. If this reference is cited again later in the text, the same number (1) is used.

Where the text cites two sources, separate the citation numbers with a comma and no spaces (i.e., 2,3). For three or more sequential citations, use a hyphen with no spaces to represent the citation numbers as a series (i.e., 4-7). For three or more non-sequential citations, or a mixture of sequential and non-sequential citations, use a combination of commas and hyphens, as appropriate (i.e., 2,3,9-13). The same punctuation rules apply to superscript citation numbers. End punctuation should follow the citation numbers.

**Name-Year System:** This citation method refers to sources in a reference list by enclosing in parentheses the surname of the author (or authors) followed by a comma and the year of publication. The citation should look like this: (Smith, 2007). Note that end punctuation follows the citation. In this case, the reference list is not numbered; it is arranged alphabetically by the author’s surname.
For two citations with the same author but different publication years, separate the years with a comma: (Smith, 2006, 2008). In the reference list, multiple sources by the same author should be listed chronologically, earliest first. To distinguish between two sources published the same author in the same year, add a lower-case letter to the year in both the in-text and reference list entries (Smith 2008a, 2008b). For two different authors with the same surname, and same publication year, add the first initial to the surname and separate the entries with a semicolon (Smith A. 2008; Smith B. 2008). For references with two authors, list surnames separated by “and” (Smith and Jones 2008) in the text. In the reference list, the authors’ names are separated by a comma. In references with three or more authors, give only the first author’s name followed by et al. (Smith et al., 2011).

Citation-Name System: With this system, a list of references is compiled first in alphabetical order by author’s last name. This list is then numbered sequentially, and the in-text citations use the numbers assigned in the reference list. Citation numbers use the same format indicate in the Citation-Sequence system described above.

Reference List

The reference list is located at the end of the paper. It can be titled in various ways, including References, Cited References, or Literature Cited. The list should include only material cited in the text. Additional sources should be listed separately under another heading, such as Additional Reading.

Each entry must correspond to an in-text citation. Each entry must be single-spaced, with two spaces between entries.

Book entries, citation-sequence and citation-name methods

Basic information:
Author. Title. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; date.

Examples:


Book entries, name-year method

Basic information:

Examples:

Newspaper Articles, citation-sequence and citation-name methods

Basic information:
Author. Title of article. Title of newspaper (edition). Date;section:beginning page of article (column no.).

Example:
Weiss R. Study shows problems in cloning people: researchers find replicating primates will be harder than other mammals. Washington Post (Home Ed.). 2003 Apr 11;Sect. A:12 (col. 1).

Newspaper Articles, name-year method

Basic information:
Author. Date. Title of article. Title of newspaper (edition). Section:beginning page of article (column no.).

Example:

Journal Articles, citation-sequence and citation-name methods

Basic information:
Author. Article Title. Journal Title. Date;volume(issue):location.

Example:

Journal Articles, name-year method

Basic information:

Example:

Internet Homepages, citation-sequence and citation-name methods

Basic information:
Title of Homepage [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; date of publication [date updated; date cited]. Notes.

Example:

Internet Homepages, name-year method

Basic information:
Title of Homepage [medium designator]. Date of publication. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; [date updated; date cited]. Notes.
Example:

**Books on the Internet, citation-sequence and citation-name methods**

Basic information:
Author. Title of Book [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; date of publication [date updated; date cited]. Notes.

Example:

**Books on the Internet, name-year method**

Basic information:
Author. Date of publication. Title of Book [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: publisher; [date updated; date cited]. Notes.

Example:

**Journal Articles on the Internet, citation-sequence and citation-name methods**

Basic information:
Author. Title of article. Title of journal (edition) [medium designator]. Date of publication [date updated; date cited];volume(issue):location. Notes.

Example:

**Journal Articles on the Internet, name-year method**

Basic information:
Author. Date of publication. Title of article. Title of journal (edition) [medium designator]. [date updated; date cited];volume(issue):location. Notes.

Example:
Databases on the Internet, citation-sequence and citation-name methods

Basic information:
Title of Database [medium designator]. Edition. Place of publication: publisher. Beginning date—ending date [date updated; date cited]. Notes.

Example:

Databases on the Internet, name-year method

Basic information:
Title of Database [medium designator]. Beginning date—ending date. Edition. Place of publication: publisher. [date updated; date cited]. Notes.

Example:

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Missouri University of Science and Technology
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