Types of APA papers

**Literature Review** – a critical summary of what the scientific literature says about your topic
Contents:
- Title page
- Abstract (ask your instructor whether this is required)
- Introduction of sections (ask your instructor whether this is required)
- Discussion (ask your instructor whether this is required)
- Reference list

**Experimental Report** – structure follows the scientific method
Contents:
- Title page
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- References
- Appendices
- Tables/figures

**General Rules**
- Double spaced
- 1 inch margins
- 12 pt. Times New Roman font (recommended)
- Page header (running head) – shortened version of your papers title, flush left, cannot exceed 50 characters including spacing and punctuation, goes on every page
- Page numbers top, flush right
Forming a Title Page
- Top left, type “Running Head,” followed by a colon and a shortened version of your papers title (no more than 50 characters, all capital letters)
- Put the page number 1 flush right
- Halfway down the page, center the full title
  - Capitalize all words with 4 letters or more
- Your name
- Your school’s name

Abstract (ONLY REQUIRED FOR EXPERIMENTAL REPORTS)
- Ask your instructor whether or not this is required
- Included immediately after the title page
- Center the word abstract on inch from the top of the page
- Double spaced
- 100-250 words
- Provides a quick overview of the essay, state main idea and key points (much like an introductory paragraph)
First page of the essay

CAN MEDICATION CURE OBESITY IN CHILDREN? 3

Can Medication Cure Obesity in Children?
A Review of the Literature

In March 2004, U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona called attention to a health problem in the United States that, until recently, has been overlooked: childhood obesity. Carmona said that the “astounding” 15% child obesity rate constitutes an “epidemic.” Since the early 1980s, that rate has “doubled in children and tripled in adolescents.” Now more than 9 million children are classified as

Start of essay material – Include the title of the paper, centered, at the top, with the introduction of new material, include heading to introduce new topics to help readers follow the organization (ALL HEADINGS OTHER THAN LEVEL 1 ARE ONLY REQUIRED FOR EXPERIMENTAL REPORTS)
• Level 1 – Centered, boldface, uppercase and lowercase headings, enter onto a new line then begin body text
• Level 2 – Left-aligned, boldface, Uppercase and lowercase headings, enter onto a new line then begin body text
• Level 3 – Indented, boldface heading with a period. Begin body text after the period.
• Level 4 – Indented, boldface, italicized, lowercase heading with a period. Begin body text after the period.
Conclusion – Wrap up key points, label with “Conclusion,” centered at the top of the page
Visuals

- Label each table with the appropriate number (1, 2, 3, etc.), “Table,” and a clear title
- Place the label and title on separate lines above the table, flush left, and double spaced
- Provide its source note below the table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Side effects</th>
<th>Average weight loss/gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sibutramine</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>0-6 mos.: placebo</td>
<td>Mos. 6-12: increased blood pressure; increased pulse rate</td>
<td>After 6 mos.: loss of 3.2 kg (7 lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6-12 mos.: sibutramine</td>
<td></td>
<td>After 12 mos.: loss of 4.5 kg (9.9 lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicated</td>
<td>0-12 mos.: sibutramine</td>
<td>Increased blood pressure; increased pulse rate</td>
<td>After 6 mos.: loss of 7.8 kg (17.2 lb)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>After 12 mos.: loss of 7.0 kg (15.4 lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orlistat</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>0-12 mos.: placebo</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Gain of 0.67 kg (1.5 lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0-12 mos.: orlistat</td>
<td>Oily spotting; flatulence; abdominal discomfort</td>
<td>Loss of 1.3 kg (2.9 lb)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


aThe medication and/or placebo were combined with behavioral therapy in all groups over all time periods.
Parenthetical citations

• Both the author’s last name and year of publication should appear in the text *(Jones, 2005)*
• When directly quoting, the author, year of publication, and page number needs to be included
• If the author is directly introduced, include the year of publication immediately after, in parentheses.

  According to Smith *(2012)*, “Cats should not be housed in the same area as dogs” *(p. 234)*.

• If the author is not named in the sentence, place all reference material (author, publication year, and page number) in parentheses at the end of the quote.

  She explained, “The competitiveness of cats and dogs cause them not to get along” *(Smith 2012, p. 234)*.

• For quotations that are 40 words or longer, place them in a block notation. Do not use quotation marks. Begin the quotation on a new line, indented ½ inch from the left margin.

  Smith’s (2012) research explained the following:
  The nature and different distinct personalities of cats and dogs makes them unsuitable to live in close parameters with one another. If cats and dogs are in the same household, they should have separate living spaces in order to accommodate their differing natures. *(p.234)*

• When summarizing or paraphrasing, make a reference to the author and year of publication in the in text citation. (Including the page number is encouraged but not required).

  According to Smith *(2012)*, cats and dogs should not live closely together. Cats and dogs should not live closely together *(Smith, 2012, p. 234)*.

Other Rules

• Number all pages, top, flush right
• Capitalize all words of four letters or more in titles of works and in headings
• Capitalize the first word after a colon, if it begins a complete sentence
• Indent and double space quotations that are more than 40 words
  • Do not use quotation marks
• Double space and indent any footnotes
Forming an APA Reference Page

- Reference page begins on a separate page at the end of the piece
- Heading is centered, not italicized, underlined, or in quotes (References)
- Double spacing is used throughout
- If the citation uses more two or more lines, indent the lines that follow the first using 5 spaces
- List sources in alphabetical order by author’s last name. If no author or editor name is given, use the first word of the title other than A, An, or The.
- If the list includes multiple works from the same author, list them chronologically
- Maintain punctuation and capitalization as it appears in the title. Capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and first word that appears after a colon, dash, or proper noun. Also capitalize major words in titles. Do not capitalize the first letter of the second word in a hyphenated compound word.
- In APA, author’s names are listed by Last name, First initial, Second initial (Last, F.I. Ex: Jones, T. O.)
- With 8+ Authors: List the first six, insert an ellipsis (...) and follow with the last author
- Include Edition Number only if it is an edition other than the first (Ex: 5th ed.)
- Use (n.d.) if no date is provided
- Do not include references such as blogs, sacred texts, emails, and interviews on the reference page. But do include them in In-Text citation

Sample Reference Pages Entries and Format

Books Single author-
Last, F. I. (Year). Title: Subtitle. (Edition Number.). City, State: Publisher.


Multivolume Work-
Editor Last, F.I. (Eds.). (Year). Title of works (Vol. number). City, State: Publisher.


Article in Journal-


Article in a Magazine-
Last, F.I. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. Title of Newspaper, pages.


Article from an Online Journal/ Magazine/ Newspaper-
Last, F.I. (Year, Month Day). Article title. Journal/ Magazine/ Newspaper Title. Retrieved from Web Site


Article from an Online Database-
Last, F.I. (Year, Month Day). Document title. Retrieved from Web Site


Web Site-
Last, F.I. (Year, Month Day). Document title. Retrieved from Web Site


Sources Used: