

Creating Parenthetical References

The following paragraph demonstrates the use of *parenthetical citation* as a way to cite sources within a paper. Cite the borrowed material by putting the author's last name or, if there is no author listed, the first few words of the title of the original source, in parentheses at the end of the sentence containing the borrowed material. This is called a "*reference*". If you used a *book, magazine, journal, or newspaper* as the original source (in print or online), include the page number on which the information is found in the book: for example (Samuels 134), or the range of page numbers of an article (Samuels 24-38).

Food experts and Chinese historians differ as to the number of regions, how regionalism is defined, and the evolution of the cooking styles and dishes. From surveys and observations, one can conclude that regional foods often are special occasion dishes, and they represent the dining preferences of the upper class people (Anderson 263). E. N. Anderson stresses that in regional cooking, the ingredients should be local and that the area is recognized for its universally known dishes. Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou are examples of urban, cosmopolitan and wealthy cities that have shaped Chinese cuisine. Inhabitants in the cities demand sophisticated and exquisite dishes from the best chefs (270). Over time, these palates have set standards for cuisines in their regions. However, the exception to cuisines arising from urban areas is in the Western region Sichuan, where according to Jacqueline Newman, "The commoner's preference for piquant and spicy dishes has given the area its permanent recognition for the spiciest food in China" (Newman).

Of all food items, rice is the staple food familiar and available at every home-cooked meal. The USDA reported that in 2002-2003, China's rice consumption exceeded 134,800,000 metric tons ("Rice"). The only other ingredients that surpass regional labels and are found in all areas of China are the onion, cabbage and radish families ("Chinese Food").

The Works Cited page is always the last, separate page of the paper.

Works Cited

Anderson, E. N. Food of China. New Haven: Yale. 1988. Print.

"Chinese Food." DISCovering Multicultural America. Online ed. Detroit: Gale, 2003. Student Resource Center - Gold. Gale. Web. 20 Nov. 2006.

Newman, Jacqueline M. "Early Chinese Food History." Flavor and Fortune: Dedicated to the Art and Science of Chinese Cuisine. 1996. Web. 6 Aug 2005.

"Rice Consumption." USDA: Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). 2002. Foodmarket Exchange.com. Web. 2 Mar. 2011.

When must you reference a source in your paper?

When you...

Examples

Quote directly in your paper. Use quotation marks.	“The commoner’s preference for piquant and spicy dishes has given the area its permanent recognition for the spiciest food in China” (Newman). (Notice that the period is removed from the quote and put <i>after</i> the parentheses.)
Paraphrase or say it in your own words after you have read and understood it.	From surveys and observations one can conclude that regional foods often are special occasion dishes and they represent the dining preferences of the upper class people (Anderson 263).
Use dates, facts or statistics that could be disputed.	The USDA reported that in 2002-2003, China’s rice consumption exceeded 134,800,000 metric tons (“Rice”).
Use factual information that is <i>not</i> common knowledge.	The only other ingredients that surpass regional labels and are found in all areas of China are the onion, cabbage and radish families. (“Chinese Food”).

When *don’t* you have to use parenthetical references?

When you use your own words and ideas (not paraphrasing someone else) or data and images you collected or made. There will <i>usually</i> be no parenthetical references in introductory and concluding paragraphs, topic sentences, or transitional sentences.	Food experts and Chinese historians differ as to the number of regions, how regionalism is defined and the evolution of the cooking styles and dishes.
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What do you include in the parentheses?

(Newman)	Print or Web, provide the last name: One author :(Chen) Two authors: (Chen and Samuels) Three authors: (Chen, Samuels, and Jones) More than three authors, (Chen et al.) Two authors with the same last name, use first initial: (A. Chen) and (T. Chen)
(Anderson 263)	This in-text reference is from a book. The author is Anderson and the page is 263.
(270)	If the same book source is again cited in the paper and it follows (Anderson 263) without another citation between them, there is no need to state the author again.
(“Rice”)	When there is no author, use the title’s first word, or the first few words, in quotation marks . If two or more articles have the same first word in their title, keep using title words until you include the first different word in each. Ex: (“Rice”) and (“Rice Consumption”)

For more on citing sources in the text, read Chapter 6 in MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed.

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