# In-Text Citations (also called Parenthetical References)

**An In-Text Citation**:

* **Gives credit** for any information that is not your creation (e.g., an image or poem), your own opinion, or common knowledge.
* Documents exactly **where in your paper** you have used information from a specific source.
* Consists of **whatever comes first** in the full citation, and must be **unique** to that specific citation.
* Goes **outside of a quotation** and **before any punctuation,** such as a period or comma, except in the case of a block quote.

**Draft your Works Cited list in advance**, so you will know what information to put in your parenthetical citations (i.e., what comes first in the full citation and how to be sure it is unique to that specific source).

**Add the in-text citations as you write** your essay, so you won’t have to look for your sources later.

Use one in-text citation at the end of a section of text that comes from one source, but don’t go further than 1 paragraph without inserting a reference.

**Examples**:

**Direct Quote:**

John Smith stated, “I really love doing research**” (**Brown**).**

**Paraphrased Information:**

The research process always appealed to John Smith **(**Brown**).**

**Print Source** (include page number/s)**:**

The research process always appealed to John Smith **(**Brown 67**).**

**Two or three authors of a** **single work**:

The research process always appealed to John Smith (Brown, Jones**, and** Smith).

**Source with No Author:**

The research process always appealed to John Smith **(“**The Joy of Research**”).**

**Block Quote** (a direct quote that is **4 lines** or longer)**:**

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……………...research**.** **(**Brown**)**