Referencing and references

Researchers are expected to refer to the work of others in their own written work. This is done to acknowledge intellectual debt; to support facts or claims; to enable readers to explore related material. Whatever the reason, it is important to present references in a way that will communicate the information necessary for the reader to identify the item referenced effectively and easily.

Failure to acknowledge sources or how to plagiarise - 1

The obvious method
- copy words written by someone else without using quotation marks (“…”)
  and/or
  without a reference (e.g. Smith, 2005).

“I forgot” is not a defence.
Failure to acknowledge sources or how to plagiarise - 2

The slightly subtle way
– paraphrase – i.e. to rearrange the words

The almost cunning method
– summarize - writing a summary in other words (make a précis):
  without stating that you are making a summary;
  without citing your source.

Misrepresentation of empirical observations

Cheating includes writing summaries or analyses that include material which was not actually derived from records made during the writer’s own observations (or from someone else’s observations).

In other words, you can’t make up the data to fit the conclusions you would like to make.

This is also known as “fabrication of data”.

Failure to acknowledge sources or forgetting secondary citations - 1

Secondary sources report work originally presented in other papers.

Textbooks – the most obvious examples.

Students
• read textbooks
• write their essays
• cite the original papers - not the textbook

Failure to acknowledge sources or forgetting secondary citations - 2

Indirect access to sources should always be acknowledged as secondary citations, e.g:

‘Cited by’ the paper that you read

“The world will end at the end of the lecture.”
(Nostradamus, 1557, cited by Atwit, 1999)
Failure to acknowledge sources or forgetting secondary citations - 3

Secondary citation is not generally acceptable in a research publication.

Good scholars consult the original papers
- be fair to the original author;
- make sure you don’t repeat other people’s mistakes.

Always try to consult primary sources.

Examples of correct attribution - 1

If plagiarism is such a big issue, how can you avoid it?

Fortunately, there are some acceptable ways of using other people’s work.

The key point is honesty. Anyone reading your work must be certain what is your work and where you have relied on other people’s work.
Examples of correct attribution - 2

Acceptable usages
Summarizing the important points while demonstrating an understanding of the material:

In reviewing the literature, Smalley (1998) concludes that all attempts to parse English with grammars of no more power than context-free have failed.

Must include Smalley’s paper in the references.

Examples of correct attribution - 3

Providing more information about the previous work so you can discuss individual points:

Smalley (1998) cites Crouch’s (1993) claim that parsing centre-embedded sentences should be parsed using finite state machines with a limited number of transitions, thus modelling the limited capacity of short-term memory.

You must include Smalley’s and Crouch’s papers in the references.
Examples of correct attribution - 4

An alternative method:
To summarize Crouch (1993, as described by Smalley (1998)), centre-embedded sentences should be parsed using finite state machines with a limited number of transitions, thus modelling the limited capacity of short-term memory.

You must include Smalley’s and Crouch’s papers in the references.

Examples of plagiarism - 1

No acknowledgement of a source:

Centre-embedded sentences should be parsed using finite state machines with a limited number of transitions, thus modelling the limited capacity of short-term memory.
Examples of plagiarism - 2

Pretending you have read a paper, while basing your summary on someone else’s:

Crouch (1993) states centre-embedded sentences should be parsed using finite state machines with a limited number of transitions, thus modelling the limited capacity of short-term memory.

Including Smalley’s paper in the reference list/bibliography doesn’t make it OK!

How to reference

There are two parts to referencing:

– Making a reference in text

– Recording the details of an item in a bibliography or list of references.
Making a reference in text

There are many styles of making references. There are two basic families:

– Harvard system - Author/date method

– Vancouver system - numbering.

Vancouver system – numbering

References are made by giving a number which points to a numbered bibliography.

Simpkins(1) includes a review of implementations of LFG written from the database interface perspective and with a concentration on semantic systems imposed on LFG. This review was later extended with a concentration on the parsing of co-ordination.(2)

There have been two notable implementations of LFG, both originating from the Institut für Linguistik of the Universität Stuttgart. The first implementation(3–4) was part of a larger system investigating the use of Kamp’s Discourse Representation System.
Harvard system - Author/date method - 1

References are made by giving the author’s name and the date of publication.

Simpkins (1988) includes a review of implementations of LFG written from the database interface perspective and with a concentration on semantic systems imposed on LFG. Hurt (1991) builds on this review with a concentration on the parsing of co-ordination.

There have been two notable implementations of LFG, both originating from the Institut für Linguistik of the Universität Stuttgart. The first implementation was part of a larger system investigating the use of Kamp’s Discourse Representation System (Frey and Reyle, 1983; Reyle and Frey, 1983).

The art of placing a citation in the text - 1

There are a number of guidelines for placing citations:

Obvious guideline 1
A citation in the text must point to a specific entry in your list of references.

Easy examples:
(Jones, 1996)
(Jones and Jones, 1995)
(Jones, Jones and Jones, 1994)
The art of placing a citation in the text - 2

More difficult cases:
Distinguishing between two authors with the same family name, eg:
(Sloman, A, 1999) and (Sloman, M, 1999).

More than three authors
(Jones et al, 1993)

Corporate authors
(SUN, 1999) or (SUN Microsystems, 1999)

The art of placing a citation in the text - 3

Obvious guideline 2
If you want to refer to a:
specific page (eg for a quotation),
section / chapter, figure / picture,
table, equation …

you have to include the appropriate information, eg:
(Hancox, 1989, fig. 2)
(Hancox, Mills and Reid, 1990, 90-91)
(Simpkins and Hancox, 1990, sec. 6.1)
The art of placing a citation in the text - 4

When you write your text, you should place your citation where it doesn’t get in the way of reading.

**Hint** - try to place citations before punctuation marks:

Many previous NLP systems have simply used the search strategy of Prolog directly (Pereira and Warren, 1980; McCord, 1985).

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The art of placing a citation in the text - 5

Other places look quite obvious:

Some previous implementers (Phillips, 1987; Matsumoto, 1983) have used the opposite method.

And sometimes you use *part of the citation in your text*:

Sharp (1965) introduced the SLIC system ….
Using the Harvard system with \LaTeX

To implement this, we need two forms of citing references in a text:

Jones (1987) showed … \citeasnoun{jones87} showed …

Other studies showed the Earth to be cuboid (Black, 1993).
Other studies showed the Earth to be cuboid \cite{black93}.