



Academic Writing Centre ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Things to remember

Use the Running head and number all pages, including the cover page.

Double space all lines throughout the document, including block quotations and the references .

The only exception to the double spacing rule is a table.

Quotations that are 40 words or more must be blocked. Use a hanging indent to block the quote.

In-text references are enclosed in parentheses and should include the author's last name, the date of publication, and, if you are quoting directly from a source, the page number that the quotation appeared on. Put the period after the end parenthesis. (The exception is a block quotation where the period precedes the parentheses).

Use square brackets to indicate your additions to quoted material.

Use ellipses [...] to indicate omitted material.

On the Reference Page:

Capitalize the key words in a journal title (headline style capitalization).

Capitalize all other titles (newspapers...) like a sentence.

Italicize publication titles. Include volume and issue numbers for journal articles, as well as the page range.

Enter your references in alphabetical order according to the authors' last names.

APA Style

CHILDREN AND COMPUTER GAMES

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Because the majority of popular video games draw on violent themes for their fantasies, critics suggest there is a potentially dangerous carryover of aggression into real life. Anderson and Ford (2000) concluded from experiments with college students that "aggressive video games [such as Zaxxon and Centipede] can have short-term negative effects on game player's emotional state....A highly aggressive game [leads] to increased hostility and anxiety" (p. 392).

On the other hand, the producers of *Sesame Street*, the Children's Television Workshop, have proved that video games can present their action-oriented fantasy with positive, non-violent themes (Greenfield, 1999). Regardless of the theme, UCLA professor Seymour Feshbach asserts that fantasy is vital to child development (Meer, 1998), and, as Loftus and Loftus (1999) have pointed out, in an educational setting, learning can actually be enhanced by video games that use fantasy to "provide or provoke vivid images related to the material to be learned" (p.231). Since children's literature from the Brothers Grimm to Dr. Seuss is rooted in fantasy, should video games be censured for presenting the same themes electronically?

Another attraction of video games is interaction, the value of which is a heated issue among critics. Because the player deals solely with the machine in most applications, worried parents fear that video games will replace social interaction. Combine this isolation with violent themes and the consequences could be dire:

It may be that the most harmful aspect of violent video games is that they are solitary in nature. A two-person aggressive game seems to provide a cathartic or releasing effect for aggression, while a solitary aggressive game [such as Space Invaders] may stimulate further aggression. (Greenfield, 1999, p. 26)

References

- Anderson, C.A., & Ford, C.M. (2000). Affect of the game player: Short-term effects of highly and mildly aggressive video games. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 12(4), 390-402.
- Greenfield, P.M. (1999). *Mind and media: The effects of television, video games, and computers*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Loftus, G.R., & Loftus, E.F. (1999). *Mind at play: The psychology of video games*. New York: Basic Books.
- Meer, J. (1998, September 12). Mickey Mouse vs. Donkey Kong. *Psychology Today*. 9 –12.

Things to Remember

Look for the author, corporate author, or editor responsible for the information on the screen. If you can't find these, alphabetize according to the [web] page title.

Double space all lines.

When DOI's (digital object identifiers) are available, include them for both print and electronic sources.

When a DOI is used, no further retrieval information is needed to identify or locate the content.

If no DOI has been assigned to the content, provide the home page URL of the journal or the book.

In general, it is not necessary to include database information.

There is no change in the format of in-text citations.

The URLs given here were operative in November 2009.

APA Electronic References

References

Sleek, S. (1996, January). Psychologists builds a culture of peace. *Psychology of Peace*, pp.1- 33. doi: 10.1018/J0064-2901(12)80004-1

Federal Bureau of Investigation. (1999, May). *Encryption: Impact on law enforcement*. Washington, D.C.:FBI.doi:10.1037/h0027240

Bowles, M.D. (1998). *The organization man goes to college: AT&T's experiment in humanistic education, 1953-1960*. Retrieved from <http://att.com.tandf.co/html/indes.asp>

Selected On-line Information Sites

<http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/citex.html>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>

<http://flash1r.apa.org/apastyle/basics/index.htm> (This is the official APA tutorial complete with 26 slides with voice-over narration)

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090212013008_560.pdf (sample of APA paper)

<http://supp.apa.org/style/PM6E-Corrected-Sample-Papers.pdf> (an excellent example of a student paper with 6th edition corrections applied)

<http://library.lib.binghamton.edu/search/citing.html>

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