

chicago citation examples for paraphrasing

A Comprehensive Guide to Chicago Citation Examples for Paraphrasing

chicago citation examples for paraphrasing are essential for any student, researcher, or writer working with sources in a Chicago-style format. Properly attributing borrowed ideas, even when rephrased in your own words, is a cornerstone of academic integrity and avoids the serious repercussions of plagiarism. This guide will demystify the nuances of Chicago style, providing clear and actionable examples for various source types when paraphrasing. We will explore the fundamental principles of in-text citations and their corresponding endnotes or bibliographical entries, ensuring you can accurately cite books, articles, websites, and more. Understanding these examples is crucial for maintaining credibility and demonstrating thorough research.

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Understanding Chicago Style for Paraphrasing

Chicago style, also known as The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS), offers two distinct citation systems: the Notes-Bibliography system and the Author-Date system. For many humanities disciplines, especially in history and literature, the Notes-Bibliography system is the prevalent choice. This system uses numbered notes (either footnotes or endnotes) within the text and a bibliography at the end of the work. When paraphrasing, it is crucial to understand how to integrate these notes seamlessly without disrupting the flow of your writing while still giving due credit to the original author. The core principle remains the same across both systems: acknowledge the source of every idea, fact, or piece of information that is not your own, regardless of whether you are quoting directly or paraphrasing.

The key to effective paraphrasing in Chicago style is not just to change a few words but to genuinely rephrase the original idea in your own voice and sentence structure. However, even after comprehensive rephrasing, the intellectual property still belongs to the original author. Therefore, a citation is always required. The Chicago style emphasizes clarity and conciseness in its citation practices, aiming to provide readers with sufficient information to locate the original source easily. This guide will focus primarily on the Notes-Bibliography system, as it is more commonly encountered when discussing paraphrasing with detailed note-based citations.

The Importance of Paraphrasing and Citation

Paraphrasing is a critical academic skill that involves restating information from a source in your own words and sentence structure. It demonstrates your understanding of the material and allows you to integrate external ideas smoothly into your own arguments. However, simply rephrasing does not absolve you from the responsibility of citation. Failing to cite paraphrased material is a form of plagiarism, which carries severe academic consequences, including failing grades, suspension, or even expulsion. Proper citation, conversely, strengthens your credibility by showing that your work is well-researched and grounded in existing scholarship.

The act of citation in Chicago style, particularly when paraphrasing, serves several vital purposes. It provides a roadmap for your readers, enabling them to explore the original sources and delve deeper into the topics you discuss. It also acknowledges the intellectual contributions of others, respecting their hard work and original thought. Furthermore, correct citation practices enhance the rigor and trustworthiness of your own research, showing that you are engaging with the academic conversation in a responsible and ethical manner. Mastering Chicago citation examples for paraphrasing ensures your work meets academic standards and contributes authentically to your field of study.

In-Text Citations in Chicago Style (Notes-Bibliography System)

In the Chicago Notes-Bibliography system, in-text citations are typically handled through superscript numbers placed at the end of a sentence or clause, immediately following the punctuation. These numbers correspond to either footnotes (appearing at the bottom of the page) or endnotes (appearing at the end of the chapter or document). When you paraphrase an idea, you must insert a superscript number at the point where the paraphrased information is presented in your text. The specific content of the note will then provide the full bibliographic details of the source, or a shortened version if the source has already been cited in a previous note.

The first time a source is cited in a note, it requires a full citation, including author's name, title of the work, publication information, and page number(s) where the paraphrased idea can be found. Subsequent citations of the same source can use a shortened format, typically including the author's last name, a shortened title, and the page number. This system allows for a clean and unobtrusive integration of citations within the main body of your text, maintaining a clear reading experience while providing the necessary attribution. It is essential to be meticulous in matching each superscript number to its corresponding note and to ensure the accuracy of all bibliographic information provided.

Paraphrasing from Books: Chicago Citation Examples

When you paraphrase information from a book using Chicago style (Notes-Bibliography system), you will place a superscript number in your text and then create a corresponding note. The first note for a specific book will be a full citation, providing all necessary details. Subsequent notes for the same book will use a shortened format. The bibliography entry at the end of your paper will also provide a full citation but formatted differently than the initial note.

First Citation of a Book (Paraphrased Content)

Let's say you are paraphrasing an idea from page 45 of a book titled "The Art of Research" by Jane Doe, published in 2022 by Academic Press in Chicago.

In-text:

Scholars argue that the foundational principles of ethical research have remained remarkably consistent over the centuries, emphasizing transparency and intellectual honesty.¹

Footnote/Endnote:

1. Jane Doe, *The Art of Research* (Chicago: Academic Press, 2022), 45.

Subsequent Citation of the Same Book (Paraphrased Content)

If you paraphrase another idea from the same book later in your paper, and it's not the immediately preceding citation.

In-text:

The practical application of these principles, however, can be complex and context-dependent.²

Footnote/Endnote:

2. Doe, *The Art of Research*, 112.

Shortened Citation When Immediately Preceding (Paraphrased Content)

If you are citing a different part of the same book immediately after a previous note for that same book.

In-text:

This demonstrates the ongoing debate regarding the practical ethics of data collection.³

Footnote/Endnote:

3. Ibid., 115.

The term "Ibid." (from the Latin *ibidem*, meaning "in the same place") is used to refer to the immediately preceding note. If it's from the same page, you can simply use "Ibid." If it's from a different page in the same source, add the new page number.

Bibliography Entry for the Book

Doe, Jane. *The Art of Research*. Chicago: Academic Press, 2022.

Paraphrasing from Journal Articles: Chicago Citation Examples

Citing journal articles involves similar principles but requires specific information unique to periodical publications, such as the journal title, volume, issue number, and date. When paraphrasing from a journal article, you will again use superscript numbers in your text, followed by a corresponding note. The initial note will be comprehensive, while subsequent notes will be shortened.

First Citation of a Journal Article (Paraphrased Content)

Suppose you paraphrase an argument from page 205 of an article titled "Digital Humanities in the 21st Century" by John Smith, published in Volume 50, Issue 3 of the *Journal of Modern Studies* in 2023.

In-text:

The integration of computational methods has revolutionized how scholars approach textual analysis and historical inquiry.⁴

Footnote/Endnote:

4. John Smith, "Digital Humanities in the 21st Century," *Journal of Modern Studies* 50, no. 3 (2023): 205.

Subsequent Citation of the Same Journal Article (Paraphrased Content)

If you paraphrase another point from the same article later on.

In-text:

This shift reflects a broader trend towards interdisciplinary research and the embrace of new technological tools.⁵

Footnote/Endnote:

5. Smith, "Digital Humanities," 210.

Bibliography Entry for the Journal Article

Smith, John. "Digital Humanities in the 21st Century." *Journal of Modern Studies* 50, no. 3 (2023): 199-220.

Paraphrasing from Websites: Chicago Citation Examples

Citing online sources can sometimes be more variable due to the dynamic nature of the internet. However, Chicago style provides guidelines for citing web pages. When paraphrasing content from a website, ensure you include as much identifying information as possible.

First Citation of a Web Page (Paraphrased Content)

Imagine you are paraphrasing a section on climate change statistics from a webpage titled "Global Warming Facts" on the website of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), last updated on October 26, 2023, and accessed on November 15, 2023.

In-text:

Data indicates a significant upward trend in global average temperatures over the past century.⁶

Footnote/Endnote:

6. Environmental Protection Agency, "Global Warming Facts," last modified October 26, 2023, <https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/global-warming-facts> (accessed November 15, 2023).

Note: For websites without a clear author, you often use the organization or company name. Including the access date is often recommended for online sources due to their potential for change.

Subsequent Citation of the Same Web Page (Paraphrased Content)

If you paraphrase another piece of information from the same page.

In-text:

The projected impacts include sea-level rise and more frequent extreme weather events.⁷

Footnote/Endnote:

7. EPA, "Global Warming Facts,"
<https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/global-warming-facts>.

Bibliography Entry for the Web Page

Environmental Protection Agency. "Global Warming Facts." Last modified October 26, 2023. <https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/global-warming-facts>.

Paraphrasing from Other Sources: Chicago Citation Examples

Chicago style can accommodate a wide range of source materials, including interviews, reports, and unpublished works. The fundamental principles of providing a clear in-text marker and a corresponding detailed note remain consistent.

Paraphrasing from an Interview (Notes-Bibliography System)

In-text:

During a recent conversation, the artist reflected on the subjective nature of beauty in contemporary art.⁸

Footnote/Endnote:

8. Interview with [Artist's Name], [Date of Interview], [Location if relevant].

Bibliography Entry for an Interview

[Artist's Name]. Interview by [Your Name]. [Date of Interview]. [Location if relevant].

Paraphrasing from a Report

In-text:

The study identified significant disparities in access to healthcare across different socioeconomic groups.⁹

Footnote/Endnote:

9. Author Last Name, Author First Name, *Title of Report* (City of Publication: Publisher, Year), Page Number.

Bibliography Entry for a Report

Author Last Name, Author First Name. *Title of Report*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid with Chicago Citations for Paraphrasing

Several common mistakes can undermine the effectiveness and accuracy of Chicago citations when paraphrasing. One of the most frequent errors is failing to cite altogether, which, as discussed, constitutes plagiarism. Another pitfall is insufficient paraphrasing; merely changing a few words or the order of a sentence without fundamentally rephrasing the idea is not considered original work and still requires a citation. Writers may also struggle with the correct placement of the superscript number, which should typically follow the punctuation of the sentence containing the paraphrased material.

Incorrect formatting of notes and bibliography entries is also a significant issue. This can include omitting crucial details like page numbers, publication dates, or journal volumes, making it difficult for readers to locate the original source. Forgetting to use "Ibid." correctly, or overusing it, can also create confusion. Finally, inconsistencies in citation style, such as mixing elements of the Notes-Bibliography system with the Author-Date system or applying incorrect shortened note formats, can detract from the professional presentation of your work. Carefully reviewing Chicago Manual of Style guidelines and consistently applying the chosen system are vital to avoid these pitfalls.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the fundamental difference between quoting and paraphrasing in Chicago style?

A: Quoting involves using the exact words of the original source, enclosed in quotation marks. Paraphrasing involves restating the original idea in your own words and sentence structure. Both require citation in Chicago style.

Q: Do I need to cite every sentence when paraphrasing from a single source in Chicago style?

A: Not necessarily every sentence, but you must cite whenever you present an idea, fact, or piece of information that is not common knowledge and originates from a specific source, even if paraphrased. If multiple consecutive sentences draw from the same source and idea, a single citation at the end of the section may suffice, but it's safer to cite more frequently if in doubt.

Q: How do I cite a source that has multiple authors in Chicago style when paraphrasing?

A: For two authors, list both names in notes and bibliography. For three or more authors, list the first author's name followed by "et al." in notes and bibliography entries.

Q: What if the source I am paraphrasing has no page numbers, like some web pages or online articles?

A: When page numbers are unavailable, you omit them from your citation. For web pages, you might rely on paragraph numbers if available, or simply cite the work with the author, title, and URL, along with the access date.

Q: Is it acceptable to paraphrase a source and then cite it only in the bibliography without an in-text note in Chicago style?

A: No, that is not acceptable. Chicago style (Notes-Bibliography system) requires an in-text note (footnote or endnote) every time you borrow an idea or information, even if it's paraphrased. The bibliography entry provides full details of all sources cited in the notes.

Q: How do I handle citing a paraphrased idea that is from one source but is discussed within another source (secondary source)?

A: In Chicago style, you should strive to consult the original source if possible. If you must cite a source indirectly (e.g., reading about an idea in Smith but it was originally stated by Jones), you would cite Smith in your note, but you can mention that the idea originally came from Jones. For example: "Jones argued X (as cited in Smith, page number)." Your bibliography would then list Smith.

Q: When paraphrasing, do I need to change more than just the words?

A: Yes. Effective paraphrasing requires restructuring sentences, using synonyms, and conveying the original idea in your unique voice. Simply changing a few words or altering sentence order without a substantial rewrite is insufficient and can still be considered plagiarism.

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