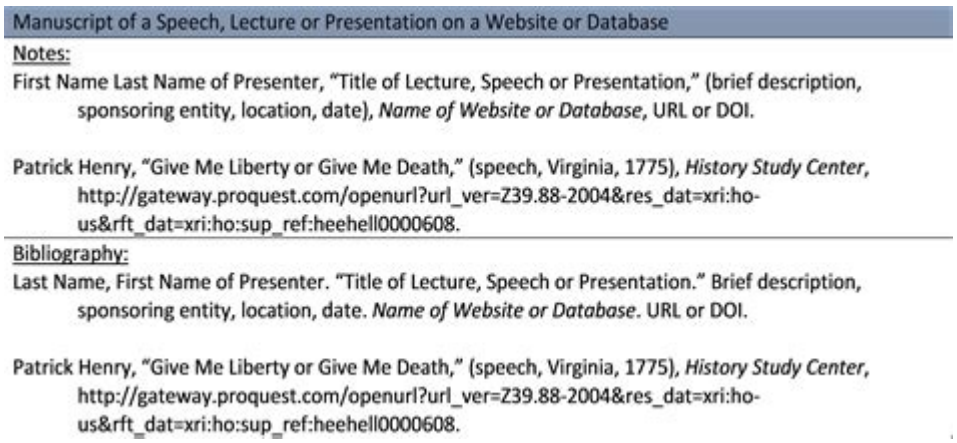
How To Cite Historycom



Manuscript of a Speech, Lecture or Presentation on a Website or Database

Notes:

First Name Last Name of Presenter, "Title of Lecture, Speech or Presentation," (brief description, sponsoring entity, location, date), *Name of Website or Database*, URL or DOI.

Patrick Henry, "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death," (speech, Virginia, 1775), *History Study Center*, http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:ho-us&rft_dat=xri:ho:sup_ref:heehell0000608.

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Patrick Henry, "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death," (speech, Virginia, 1775), *History Study Center*, http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:ho-us&rft_dat=xri:ho:sup_ref:heehell0000608.

How to Cite History.com: A Comprehensive Guide

Citing sources correctly is a fundamental part of academic research and writing. Among the many resources available online, History.com stands out as a valuable repository of historical information. Whether you are writing a research paper, an essay, or any scholarly work, knowing how to cite History.com properly is essential. This article will guide you through the process of citing History.com in various citation styles, including APA, MLA, and Chicago, as well as provide tips and best practices for ensuring accurate citations.

Understanding the Importance of Proper Citation

Before diving into how to cite History.com, it is crucial to understand why proper citation is necessary. Here are some key reasons:

1. Credibility: Citing sources enhances the credibility of your work by demonstrating that your claims are backed by reputable references.
2. Avoiding Plagiarism: Proper citation helps you avoid plagiarism, which is the unethical practice of using someone else's work as your own.
3. Reader Navigation: Citations allow readers to locate the original source for more in-depth information or verification.
4. Academic Integrity: Following citation guidelines is a requirement in many educational institutions and contributes to the overall integrity of scholarly work.

Gathering Citation Information

Before you can cite History.com, you need to collect the necessary information from the webpage you are referencing. Here's what you typically need:

- Author(s): If available, find the name of the author or the organization responsible for the content.
- Publication Date: Look for the date the article was published or last updated.

- Title of the Article: Note the full title of the specific article you are citing.
- Website Name: In this case, it will be History.com.
- URL: Copy the full web address of the article.
- Access Date (optional): Some citation styles require you to note the date you accessed the article, especially if the content is subject to change.

Citing History.com in Different Styles

Now that you have gathered all necessary information, let's explore how to cite History.com in various citation styles.

APA Style

The American Psychological Association (APA) style is commonly used in the social sciences. Here's how to cite a webpage from History.com in APA format:

Format:
Author Last Name, First Initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of the article. History.com. URL

Example:
Smith, J. (2021, July 15). The American Revolution. History.com. https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution

In-Text Citation:
For in-text citations in APA style, include the author's last name and the publication year. For example:
(Smith, 2021)

MLA Style

The Modern Language Association (MLA) style is widely used in the humanities. Here's how to cite a History.com article in MLA format:

Format:
"Title of the Article." History.com, Publisher (if different from the website name), Publication Date, URL.

Example:
"The American Revolution." History.com, A&E Television Networks, 15 July 2021, https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution.

In-Text Citation:
For in-text citations in MLA style, use a shortened version of the title (if it's long) and include the page number if available. For example:
("American Revolution")

Chicago Style

The Chicago Manual of Style is another widely accepted format, especially in history and some social sciences. Here's how to cite a History.com article in Chicago style:

Format:
Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." History.com. Last modified Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:
Smith, John. "The American Revolution." History.com. Last modified July 15, 2021. https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution.

In-Text Citation:
For in-text citations in Chicago style, provide a footnote or endnote with the author's name, article title, and publication details. For example:
1. John Smith, "The American Revolution," History.com, last modified July 15, 2021, https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution.

Common Challenges and Solutions

When citing History.com, you may encounter some common challenges. Here are a few along with solutions:

Lack of Author Information

Sometimes, articles on History.com may not list an individual author. In such cases, you can start the citation with the title of the article.

Solution: Use the article title instead of the author's name.

Dynamic Content

Webpages can be updated frequently, which may lead to confusion about which version of the article you are citing.

Solution: Always note the last updated date if available, and consider including the access date to indicate when you accessed the content.

Multiple Authors

If an article lists multiple authors, it is essential to cite them correctly.

Solution: In APA, list up to 20 authors in the reference entry. In MLA, list the first author followed by “et al.” for additional authors. In Chicago, you can list up to three authors before using “et al.”

Best Practices for Citing Online Sources

Here are some best practices to keep in mind when citing online sources like History.com:

1. Double-Check URLs: Ensure that the URL is accurate and leads directly to the source you are citing.
2. Stay Updated: Regularly check for any updates or changes to citation formats as they may evolve over time.
3. Use Citation Tools: Consider using citation management tools like Zotero, EndNote, or Citation Machine to help organize and format your citations.
4. Consult Style Guides: Always refer to the latest edition of the citation style guide you are using for the most accurate guidelines.
5. Maintain Consistency: Be consistent in your citation style throughout your paper.

Conclusion

Citing History.com is an essential skill for students, researchers, and anyone engaged in historical writing. By following the appropriate guidelines for APA, MLA, or Chicago style, you can ensure that your citations are accurate and credible. Remember to gather all necessary information, be aware of common challenges, and adhere to best practices for online citations. With this comprehensive guide, you should feel confident in your ability to cite History.com and enhance the integrity of your scholarly work.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the proper format for citing a History.com article in APA style?

In APA style, you would cite a History.com article as follows: Author Last Name, First Initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of the article. History.com. URL.

How do you cite a History.com page in MLA format?

In MLA format, you would cite it like this: "Title of the Article." History.com, A&E Television Networks, Publication Date, URL.

Is it necessary to include the date of access when citing History.com?

In general, APA style does not require the date of access unless the content is likely to change over time. However, in MLA format, it's recommended to include the date of access.

What if the author of a History.com article is not listed?

If no author is listed for the article, you can start your citation with the title of the article followed by the publication date.

Can you provide an example citation for a History.com article in Chicago style?

In Chicago style, a citation would look like this: Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." History.com. Last modified Month Day, Year. URL.

How do you cite a video from History.com?

To cite a video, you can use the following format: "Title of the Video." History.com, A&E Television Networks, Year. URL.

What should I do if I can't find the publication date for a History.com article?

If there is no publication date available, you can use 'n.d.' (no date) in your citation to indicate that the date is not provided.

Are there any specific guidelines for citing History.com in footnotes?

In footnotes, you can follow the format for the citation style you are using (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.), but generally, you would include the author, title, website name, publication date, and URL.

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