Kristina A. Boylan

Ways of Citing Reference Works [based on the University of Chicago system]

Remember, your goal is to tell the reader (in this case, your professor)not only WHAT *the information is, but if it is not an original concept of yours,* WHERE *you obtained the* information, WHO provided it, WHEN that person or persons produced it, WHERE AND HOW that information was made available to the public.

The following texts that appear in Arial font are hypothetical sections from a student essay. Compare your writing and citations with the example given here to ensure that you are correctly documenting your prepared written work.

1.   The Really Wrong Way: It seems like someone else's idea is your own.

The <u>nation is an imagined political community</u>, where people living within limited boundaries recognize their government as sovereign and themselves as a community with close ties.

This is WAY TOO CLOSE to an analysis published by Cornell University professor Benedict Anderson (and one that has been circulated widely since 1983) to be submitted without a citation. Even if the reader hadn't recognized the quote (its underlined) and following paraphrasing off the bat, a google.com search would reveal that this phrase and the following paragraphs from Anderson's well-known book, *Imagined Communities*, had been reproduced, and properly cited, online!

2.   Still the Wrong Way: You acknowledge you're using someone else's idea, but don't indicate where you obtained it.

As I read on the internet, the nation can be defined as an "imagined political community."

(and, a little better,)

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community.

We know, given the quotation marks in the first sentence and the mention of the author in the second, that this idea comes from someone or somewhere else. To be more precise, and to receive a better grade, why not go beyond answering just one question (WHO said this, WHERE I read it), and give the complete information?

3. Some Right Ways

In a history essay, you should indicate ideas and materials coming from other sources in two places: in a reference in the text and at the end, in a "Works Cited" list (a.k.a. the "Bibliography."). Here are some ways you could cite your use of Benedict Anderson's definition.

a.   from the book itself:

(1)   footnote/endnote

Footnotes and endnotes indicate to the reader where the information came from, and provide a link to the works cited at the end of the essay:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community.[1]

The first footnote (at the bottom of your page) or the endnote (typed together in a list at the end of the essay) where you used Anderson's idea would look like this:

[1] Anderson, *Imagined Communities* (1991), 5.

Then any following note would look like this:

[2] Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, 24-25.

These notes give just enough information to look for the author or the title in the bibliography, if not a library search. Some references may be so familiar that a reader will not bother looking in the bibliography, but it never hurts to cover all bases.

So, your Works Cited/Bibliography would give a complete reference for the book:

Anderson, Benedict. 1991 [1983]. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism*. London and New York: Verso.

So we know:
WHO said it/wrote it: Benedict Anderson
WHAT is being cited: the published book, indicated by its title
WHERE it was published: London and New York (if there are 3 or more places listed, you can just use the first one).
HOW it was published: Verso is a publishing company—the reference shows that this is a book.
WHEN it was published: The publication year is given.

Most books will let you know when the first edition of the book was published. In some cases its an added bonus to include the original publication date in square brackets; in others it helps readers understand that a published work is a reprint and was not just produced. It doesn't change my understanding of Anderson's work to see that the book was originally published in 1983, and you used the 1991 edition, but imagine seeing a citation like this—would it make you wonder?

Hitler, Adolf. 1997. *Mein Kampf*. Austria: Graz.

(2)   parenthetical reference

Some people think that looking up and down at text and footnotes, or flipping back and forth to check endnotes, is too disruptive for the reader. Instead, they use parenthetical references to let the reader know where they got the information, and give the full reference in the Works Cited list, as above. A parenthetical reference looks like this.

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community (1991: 5).

The nation is an "imagined political community" (Anderson 1991: 5).

If you were referring even more broadly to a concept put forth by an author in her or his whole book, article, or other published work, you could just cite the last name and the date of the publication and not specify page numbers.

As Benedict Anderson (1991) writes, much of what we believe about the nation is a construct of our imaginations.

Much of what we believe about the nation is a construct of our imaginations (see Anderson 1991).

b.   From an article:

Let's say you don't have the time to read a whole book, and find a reference to Anderson's definition in a shorter article. If the article is written by Anderson, the citations would look like this [note: this is a fictitious reference invented for the sake of this illustration!]:

Footnote/endnote:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community.[1]

[1] Anderson, "Our Faith in Nationalism," *Harper's* 35: 1 (Jan. 1990): 97.

The **parenthetical reference** would look very similar to that of a book:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community (1990: 97).

Either way, in the bibliography, you would see:

Anderson, Benedict. 1990. "Our Faith in Nationalism," *Harper's* 35, 1 (January): 95-102. [cite all the pages of the article, not just the one you used]

Let's say someone else cited a clever argument like Anderson's that you've never seen anywhere else. You want to use Anderson's definition, but you also have to acknowledge that someone delivered it to you. So in your writing, you acknowledge that the idea is Anderson's, and in your reference, you show that the source was authored by someone else:

Footnote/endnote:

  As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community.[1]

[1] Anderson is cited in Bacchetta and Power, *Right Wing Women*, 4.

Bacchetta, Paola, and Margaret Power, eds. 2002. *Right Wing Women: From Conservatives to Extremists Around the World* (New York and London: Routledge).

Parenthetical reference:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community (Bacchetta and Power 2002: 4).

Either way, we know that Anderson said it, but that you found it in a book edited by Paola Bacchetta and Margaret Power.

For print media, there are many other combinations of author(s), titles, dates, pages, and so on to consider, but they follow the same patterns laid out here. When in doubt, consult a style manual like Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (multiple editions have been printed) or the style guides published by the University of Chicago or the Modern Language Association (available in print or online).

One more issue we will mention here, which is still baffling style guide authors, is how to cite Internet resources. Servers can be down, people can move their materials elsewhere or dismantle sites completely, and the source that you legitimately read on the web may not be available for your reader to check, days or even hours later.

Still, your reader will benefit from seeing as much information as you have regarding the source's author, the page's title, if you need to click on or select any special parts of the site to find the information cited, the date of its copyright and the host institution, and the date that you viewed the site.

Let's say you read Anderson's quote online (remember that Google search?):

  As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community.[1]

Here's your **footnote/endnote:**

[1] Anderson cited in Zuelow, "The Nationalism Project: Benedict Anderson: The Nation as Imagined Community" <http://www.nationalismproject.org/what/anderson.htm> [Sept. 11, 2002].

And in the bibliography,

Zuelow, Eric G. E. 2002. "The Nationalism Project: Benedict Anderson: The Nation as Imagined Community" " <http://www.nationalismproject.org/what/anderson.htm> [Sept. 11, 2002].

Parenthetical reference:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community (Zuelow 2002 [Sept. 11, 2002]).

This site provides the name of the author/webmaster (look at the end of the page, and/or look for a home page for this information). If you can't find any information like the webmaster's name or a sponsoring institution (University of Texas at Austin for the Perry-Castañeda Map Library), give as much as you have—the title or heading of the site, the URL, and the date you viewed it. Some people like to print out the page(s) they have viewed, or at least the first page just to be on the safe side—you may want to do this as you write your web reviews and use the Net for your other essays.

Parenthetical references are shorter in just about all other cases, but with regard to the Internet, you have to give the webmaster or sponsoring institution's name and the date you viewed the site, since you don't have a printed page number. If you didn't have a webmaster's or institution's name, you would have to give the URL in parentheses in the text, which can be a little distracting, too. Let's say the Nationalism Project page did not list its author:

As Benedict Anderson said, the nation is an imagined political community (<http://www.nationalismproject.org/what/anderson.htm> [Sept. 11, 2002]).

In this case you might prefer having the URL at the bottom of the page!

Ultimately, the choice is up to you—but you do have to decide on a way to cite your sources in order to let the reader know WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and HOW.

As for WHY, that could be another question entirely!!!

Sample Bibliography/Works Cited:

Anderson, Benedict. 1991 [1983]. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism*. London and New York: Verso.
-----. 1990. "Our Faith in Nationalism," *Harper's* 35, 1 (January): 95-102.
-----. 1990b. "Xanano Gusmao Imagines Community in East Timor," *New York Times*, Oct. 30.*

* only give the repeat dates letters if you are using parenthetical references (Anderson 1990b) vs. (Anderson 1990: 97) or (Anderson 1990a: 97).

Bacchetta, Paola, and Margaret Power, eds. 2002. *Right Wing Women: From Conservatives to Extremists Around the World* (New York and London: Routledge).

Zuelow, Eric G. E. 2002. "The Nationalism Project: Benedict Anderson: The Nation as Imagined Community" " <http://www.nationalismproject.org/what/anderson.htm> [Sept. 11, 2002].