

Most common APA 6th edition mistakes in graduate assignments

Dr. Ron Rojas

APA Mistake	Incorrect way (example)	Correct Way (example)
1) Excessive caps in title	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research Methods For Business: A Skill Building Approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
2) Avoid superscripts	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5 th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
3) Missing italics in title	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). Research methods for business: A skill building approach (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
4) Incorrect font	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). Research methods for business: A skill building approach (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
5) Need double spacing	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). Research methods for business: A skill building approach (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
6) Missing indentations	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

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APA Mistake	Incorrect way (example)	Correct Way (example)
7) Inconsistent indentations	<p>Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.).</p> <p>West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.</p>	<p>Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.).</p> <p>West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.</p>
8) No underlining of links	<p>Unit of Analysis. (2001). In <i>World of Sociology</i>, Gale. Retrieved from http://www.credoreference.com/entry/worldsocs/unit_of_analysis</p>	<p>Unit of Analysis. (2001). In <i>World of Sociology</i>, Gale. Retrieved from http://www.credoreference.com/entry/worldsocs/unit_of_analysis</p>
9) Missing publisher location	<p>Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). John Wiley & Sons Ltd.</p>	<p>Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.</p>
10) Incorrect newspaper format	<p>D'innocenzio, A. (2010). Buyers' confidence, corporate earnings offer hopeful signs: Increases suggest rebound stronger. <i>Anne Boston Globe</i>. Boston, Mass.:Apr 28, 2010. p. B.8</p>	<p>D'innocenzio, A. (2010, April 28). Buyers' confidence, corporate earnings offer hopeful signs: Increases suggest rebound stronger. <i>Boston Globe</i>, p. B.8.</p>
11) Incorrect magazine format	<p>Wellner, A. (2007). You know what your company does. Can you explain it in 30 seconds?. <i>Inc</i>, 29(7), 92-97.</p>	<p>Wellner, A. (2007, March). You know what your company does. Can you explain it in 30 seconds?. <i>Inc</i>, 29(7), 92-97.</p>
12) Incorrect journal format	<p>Kahneman, D. (2003). A prospective on judgment and choice: Mapping bounded rationality. <i>American Psychologist</i>, Vol. 58, Iss. 9, pp. 697-720.</p>	<p>Kahneman, D. (2003). A prospective on judgment and choice: Mapping bounded rationality. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 58(9), 697-720.</p>
13) No need for retrieval statements	<p>Cronmiller, T. (2009). Audit do's and audit don'ts. <i>Journal of Accounting</i>, 23(13), 15-19. Retrieved from Business Source Premier database</p>	<p>Cronmiller, T. (2009). Audit do's and audit don'ts. <i>Journal of Accounting</i>, 23(13), 15-19.</p>

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APA Mistake	Incorrect way (example)	Correct Way (example)
14) Missing end element (period at the end)	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
15) Incorrect multiple author format	Sekaran, U., and Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd	Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2010). <i>Research methods for business: A skill building approach</i> (5th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
16) Avoid author first names	Hind, Patricia , Frost, Max , & Rowley, Steve . (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18.	Hind, P. , Frost, M. , & Rowley, S. (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18-39.
17) Missing end pages of article	Hind, P., Frost, M., & Rowley, S. (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18 .	Hind, P., Frost, M., & Rowley, S. (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18-39 .
18) Incorrect form of article retrieval statement	Hind, P., Frost, M., & Rowley, S. (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18-39. Retrieved from http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?index=0&did=1860247361&SrchMode=1&sid=5&Fmt=6&VInst=PROD&VTy pe=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1273367184&	Hind, P., Frost, M., & Rowley, S. (1996). The resilience audit and the psychological contract. <i>Journal of Managerial Psychology</i> , 11(7), 18-39.
19) No quotes for title	Thornburgh, D. (2004). "A crisis in corporate governance? The WorldCom experience". <i>California Institute of Technology</i> . Pasadena, Ca: Athenaem.	Thornburgh, D. (2004). A crisis in corporate governance? The WorldCom experience. <i>California Institute of Technology</i> . Pasadena, Ca: Athenaem.
20) Missing publisher information	Piazza, M. (2006) LLP Dorsey & Whitney LLP- Life After Enron & Worldcom (Preparing for the New Regulatory Environment).	Piazza, M. (2006). <i>LLP Dorsey & Whitney LLP- Life After Enron & Worldcom: Preparing for the New Regulatory Environment</i> . Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.