



W. L. Adams Center for Writing

GENERATIVE AI DOCUMENTATION IN APA STYLE

Documenting Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) safeguards academic integrity, preventing the occurrence of plagiarism or misattribution. Documentation discloses AI usage and how a writer utilized AI for an assignment, paper, or project. This transparency strengthens an author's credibility and trustworthiness since it discloses to the reader how AI helped shape their work. Below is a brief explanation of how GenAI disclosure should appear in two different kinds of in-text citations along with examples of how it should appear on a References page.

Narrative Citation

A narrative citation utilizes an author or authors' last name(s) along with the year of publication in a signal phrase.

General AI Chat

- OpenAI (2026) stated that the ruined statue in *Ozymandias* symbolizes the passage of time and the inevitable loss of power associated with it.

Specific AI Chat

- When prompted with "In 200 words, describe the symbolism of the ruined statue in *Ozymandias*," ChatGPT stated that the ruined statue symbolizes "the passage of time and the inevitable loss of power associated with it" (OpenAI, 2026).

Parenthetical Citation

A parenthetical citation is a source referenced in parenthesis within a sentence, including an author's last name and year of publication at the end of the sentence in which it was stated.

General AI Chat & Specific AI Chat

- Essentially, the ruined statue in *Ozymandias* symbolizes the passage of time and the inevitable loss of power associated with it (OpenAI, 2026).

References Page

General AI Chat Example

OpenAI. (2026). *ChatGPT* [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/chatgpt>

Specific AI Chat Example

OpenAI. (2026, January 8). *Response to the prompt "In 200 words, describe the symbolism of the ruined statue in Ozymandias"* [Generative AI chat]. ChatGPT. <https://chat.openai.com/>

References

McAdoo, T. (2023, April 7). *How to cite ChatGPT*. *APA Style Blog*.
<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

McAdoo, T., Denny, S., & Lee, C. (2025, September 9). *Citing generative AI in APA Style: Part 1—Reference formats*. <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/cite-generative-ai-references>