APSA Citation Decision Tree

START HERE
Is the sentence, phrase, or paragraph your own original thinking?

Yes → No citation needed

No → Unsure???

So it is based on, taken from, or influenced by someone else’s work? Then you must provide an in-text citation (see current APA guide for the few exceptions to this rule)

Are you quoting the source directly?

Yes → If direct quote (fewer than 40 words), must use quotation marks

No → Quotation marks are not needed.

If quote is 40 or more words, must block indent when including quote in your paper (no quotation marks when block indent)

Any source that is referenced in your paper (either paraphrased or quoted directly) must be included in your reference list (except personal communications). Check current APA Style Guide for reference list formatting. Format will depend on the source type (journal article, book, website, etc.)

Additional Resources:
*apastyle.org
*blog.apastyle.org
*owl.english.purdue.edu/owl
*your university writing center

Created by: Harriet L. Schwartz, PhD harrietschwartz14@gmail.com

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Designed using easel.ly

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