

APA 7 Citation and Reference-List Cleanup: Before and After

Undergraduate / Graduate · APA 7th Edition · 380-word excerpt

Portfolio demonstration: This educational sample was created to show service quality. It is not customer work and should not be submitted as a student's assignment.

Draft citation problems

Before: Research on adolescent technology use often reaches conflicting conclusions (Orben and Przybylski 2019). Other studies connect new-media screen time with rising depressive symptoms (Twenge, Joiner, Rogers & Martin, 2018). A susceptibility framework helps explain why average effects can conceal meaningful differences (Valkenburg & Peter 2013).

Audit: APA parenthetical citations require a comma before the year. A two-author work uses an ampersand inside parentheses. A work with three or more authors uses the first author's surname followed by 'et al.' from the first citation. Every in-text citation must have one matching reference entry, and every reference entry should be cited in the paper unless the assignment explicitly uses a broader bibliography.

Corrected in-text citations

After: Research on adolescent technology use often reaches conflicting conclusions (Orben & Przybylski, 2019). Other studies connect new-media screen time with rising depressive symptoms (Twenge et al., 2018). A susceptibility framework helps explain why average effects can conceal meaningful differences (Valkenburg & Peter, 2013).

The correction standardizes punctuation and author treatment without changing the writer's claims. A full citation audit would also open each source to confirm author order, year, title, journal, volume, issue, page range, and DOI rather than guessing missing metadata.

Reference-list cleanup

Corrected references are alphabetized by first-author surname. Article titles use sentence case. Journal title and volume require italics in the formatted document. DOI values should be presented as live <https://doi.org/> links when verified.

Orben, A., & Przybylski, A. K. (2019). The association between adolescent well-being and digital technology use. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 3(2), 173–182.

Twenge, J. M., Joiner, T. E., Rogers, M. L., & Martin, G. N. (2018). Increases in depressive symptoms, suicide-related outcomes, and suicide rates among U.S. adolescents after 2010 and links to increased new media screen time. *Clinical Psychological Science*, 6(1), 3–17.

Valkenburg, P. M., & Peter, J. (2013). The differential susceptibility to media effects model. *Journal of Communication*, 63(2), 221–243.

Final audit checklist

One-to-one matching: confirm that Orben and Przybylski, Twenge and colleagues, and Valkenburg and Peter appear in both the body and reference list. Metadata verification: check the publisher record or DOI landing page for every journal article. Document formatting: apply double spacing and hanging indents in the final file. Scope control: do not add a DOI, issue number, database name, or page range unless it has been verified from the source.

References

- Orben, A., & Przybylski, A. K. (2019). The association between adolescent well-being and digital technology use. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 3(2), 173–182.
- Twenge, J. M., Joiner, T. E., Rogers, M. L., & Martin, G. N. (2018). Increases in depressive symptoms, suicide-related outcomes, and suicide rates among U.S. adolescents after 2010 and links to increased new media screen time. *Clinical Psychological Science*, 6(1), 3–17.
- Valkenburg, P. M., & Peter, J. (2013). The differential susceptibility to media effects model. *Journal of Communication*, 63(2), 221–243.