

In the simplest terms, an in-text citation is

How to create the in-text citation will depend on how you are using the secondary source within a particular sentence and on the structure of that sentence. Let's look at a few examples sentences using this article:

Le Roux, M.C., & Kemp, R. (2009). Effect of a companion dog on depression and anxiety levels of elderly residents in long-term care facilities. 23-26. doi: 10.1111/j.1479-8301.2009.00268.x

: Le Roux and Kemp (2009) found that companion dogs decreased the rates of depression in nursing home residents but had no effect on rates of anxiety.

Note: When you use the author's name(s) in the sentence, you will put the year in parentheses directly after the author's name.

: In recent years, studies have shown that companion dogs can decrease depression among nursing home residents (Le Roux and Kemp, 2009).

Note: If you do not use the author's name in the sentence, then both the name and the year will come in parentheses at the end of the sentence. The name and year will be separated with a comma, and the period for the sentence will always go after the parentheses.

: In 2009, Le Roux and Kemp's study showed that companion dogs can lower rates of depression in nursing home patients.

Note: Since both the author's name and the year are mentioned within the sentence, nothing needs to be in parentheses.