Where to Place In-Text Citations When Paraphrasing

DO NOT Do This

Don’t put a citation at the end of the paragraph since the citation technically applies to the last sentence, not the whole paragraph. Plus, you should end with your own thoughts, which shouldn’t be cited.

**EXAMPLE 1**

One technology developed as part of a space exploration program has the potential to be game-changing for life here on Earth. Known as the Refabricator, it is a 3D printer that can reuse the plastic from the objects it creates. This is possible because its recycling process does not grind the material, thereby maintaining its original strength. Additionally, the printer can recycle even the packing materials used to ship items to the International Space Station. After two seven-cycle testing phases on board the station, the effects of re-cycling will be analyzed (National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2018, para. 1–5).

**EXAMPLE 2**

Vaccines have tremendously brought down the number of cases of serious diseases. Diseases such as smallpox, polio, and congenital rubella syndrome have been brought down 100 percent, with no recent cases of these diseases being reported. Before the vaccines for these diseases, it is estimated that every year there were 29,005 cases of smallpox, 16,316 of polio, and 152 of congenital rubella syndrome. Measles has been brought down by 99 percent. Before the vaccine there were an estimated 530,217 cases annually with now only 273 cases reported. Pertussis had an estimated 200,752 annual cases but since the vaccine has dropped 93 percent to only 13,439 reported cases. Varicella had a 98 percent decrease. There used to be an estimated 4,085,120 annual cases, and now that is down to only 102,128 reported cases (Immunization Action Coalition, 2019).

DO This

If you will be referring to the same source over several sentences, introduce and cite the source the first time you use it. Then use transitions or additional citations to show the reader that you are still referring to the same source. Use another transition to show the reader you are switching to a different source or to your own thoughts (such as in a concluding sentence).

**EXAMPLE 1**

One technology developed as part of a space exploration program has the potential to be game-changing for life here on Earth. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA, 2018) has reported on the Refabricator, a 3D printer that can reuse the plastic from the objects it creates. This is possible because its recycling process does not grind the material, thereby maintaining its original strength. Additionally, the printer can recycle even the packing materials used to ship items to the International Space Station. After two seven-cycle testing phases on board the station, the effects of re-cycling will be analyzed (para. 1–5). If these tests prove successful, it may be only a few years before common household products can be quickly and repeatedly recycled.

**EXAMPLE 2**

Vaccines have tremendously brought down the number of cases of serious diseases. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data presented in a table by the Immunization Action Coalition (2019) show how diseases such as smallpox, polio, and congenital rubella syndrome have been brought down 100 percent, with no recent cases of these diseases being reported. Before the vaccines for these diseases, it is estimated that every year there were 29,005 cases of smallpox, 16,316 of polio, and 152 of congenital rubella syndrome. Additionally, measles has been brought down by 99 percent—before the vaccine there were an estimated 530,217 cases annually with now only 273 cases reported. Furthermore, pertussis had an estimated 200,752 annual cases but since the vaccine has dropped 93 percent to only 13,439 reported cases. Finally, varicella had a 98 percent decrease; there used to be an estimated 4,085,120 annual cases, and now the CDC data show only 102,128 reported cases (Immunization Action Coalition, 2019). Even though vaccinations have brought down the number of reported cases, it is our job as a community to keep these numbers down. Vaccines will never fully take away the diseases, but it does keep them from spreading all the time. Once fewer people stop getting vaccines, the number of reported cases will start to rise again.