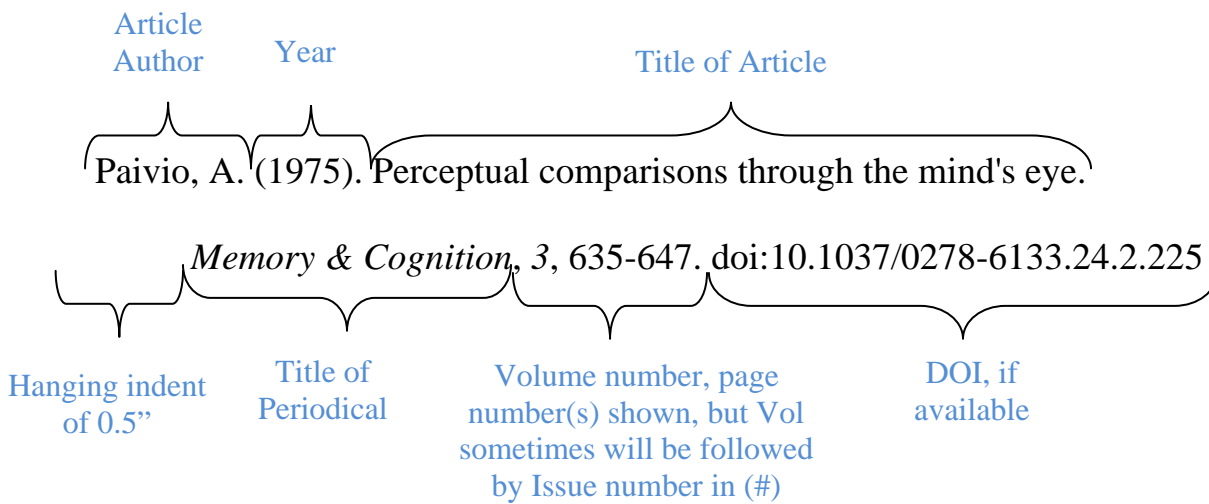


Anatomy of an APA 6th ed. citation

The following illustration shows the different parts of an article citation. A book citation won't have volume or issue numbers.



How to tell academic journals from other types

When you select articles for research and view full text articles on line you need to make a distinction between scholarly and popular material. Scholarly or academic journals are usually published by a university or institution and contain research or specific information. Popular magazines are usually commercial, written for a general audience and contain current news. They can include secondary commentaries on research. Trade publications are commercial and aimed at people interested in a specific industry or business.

What are the differences between academic and popular publications?

Academic	Popular	Trade
Authors: experts or noted professionals. Check author's background or qualifications. Authors are most often clearly affiliated with an academic or research institution and an address is provided for readers to contact the author at his or her institution or academic department.	Authors: journalists, students, or anonymous, etc. Credentials often not supplied.	Authors: people in the Industry and professional writers
Audience: articles targeted to experts or specialists.	Audience: general interest	Audience: People in a particular industry
Bibliography: a list of references is included at the end of each article	Bibliography: Articles rarely include references	Bibliography: not common

Content: More specialized, research based - often communicate research findings in a given field.	Content: General interest, often reports opinion often in a story format; focus on current events & topics of general interest, and include a variety of advertisements for consumer products.	Content: may reflect the industry's point of view, particularly on regulatory and legislative issues; often published by trade associations or by for-profit corporations
Format/Structure: Articles usually more structured, may include: abstract, literature review, methodology, results, conclusion, bibliography.	Format/Structure: Articles do not necessarily follow a specific format or structure	Format/Structure: Articles do not necessarily follow a specific format or structure
Language: higher level language, focused, serious tone, words used are specific to a discipline, written by experts	Language: broad and simple language, written to be understood by almost anyone	Language: broad and simple language, written to be understood by almost anyone. May include jargon specific to the industry
Length: Longer articles, providing in-depth analysis of topics	Length: Shorter articles, providing broader overviews of topics	Length: Shorter articles
Peer Review Policy: Articles are reviewed for detailed factual & research accuracy before publication by peer or experts in the field. Editorial board is composed of scholars in the field.	Peer Review Policy: Editor or editorial board are members of the magazine's staff.	Peer Review Policy: Editor or editorial board are members of the magazine's staff.
Special Features: Illustrations that support the text, such as tables of statistics, graphs, maps, or photographs	Special Features: Illustrations with glossy or colour photographs, usually for advertising purposes	Special Features: Illustrations with glossy or colour photographs, usually for advertising purposes
Note on Special Features: It will be difficult to tell when looking online, but the citation for an article will tell if it comes with charts, etc.		

Adapted from University of Auckland, New Zealand
http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/subjects/bus/topicguides/academic_popularjnls.htm