Parenthetical or In-Text Citations Cheat Sheet

- A citation is using another person’s thoughts or ideas to strengthen your argument or your claim in a paper.
- You must give credit to the source; otherwise you are plagiarizing.

SAMPLE: Pick a sneaker brand and prove that it is popular.

If your claim is that CONVERSE are the best sneakers, you want to find proof/facts/statistics to prove it. Therefore, you research it. When you find facts that support that Converse are a top selling sneaker, you use that information in your paper.

A simple Google search on Converse sneakers led to this fact:

“60% of all Americans own or have owned at least one pair of these sneakers”

This quote came from an article titled The History of the Converse All Star “Chuck Taylor” Basketball Shoe from the website http://www.chuckscollection.com/history1.html.

- You can’t use this information in a paper unless you cite it. So how do you cite?

**Book with an author:** Author’s last name and page number - (Shakespeare 311).

**Reference book (No author):** Shorten the title of the article – If you are reading an article about Shakespeare’s sonnets, then it should look like this: (Shakespeare’s Sonnets 315). ***Do not use the Editor’s name.

**Website with an author:** Use Author’s last name in parenthesis – (Milano)

**Website without an author:** You cite the shortened title of the website not the web address. For example, you would not cite The History of the Converse All Star “Chuck Taylor” Basketball Shoe but rather (The History of the Converse).

**ICE –** Introduce the citation (For example, In fact, It has proven)
**Citation** (Put quotation marks around the source’s words)
**Explain** (This quote means...) You must further develop and connect the quote to your paper.