

Tricky question on academic integrity

An expert provided an answer on a tricky question on academic integrity. It was previously published in the regular [ENAI newsletter](#) (June 7th, 2019).

What is the purpose of in-text citations? After all I am giving a full reference list!

*This time we bring an answer on a quite common cheeky student question. A ready-to-use answer was prepared by dr **Shiva Sivasubramaniam** from University of Derby (UK), a teacher by heart and soul, and also a member of ENAI auditing group.*

Referencing (whether it is in text or bibliographic) serves two purposes (a) to maintain integrity in that you are attributing the original source and (b) to provide a clear indication to the readers of “which of the ideas in the articles are borrowed/used from which original source”. This would help the readers easily identify the source to visit for further reading. If the references are only listed in the bibliography, he/she would not have identified the parts from each source. This would make it difficult to do further research on the subject.

For example, if Anna used 10 different sources in her article, without her identifying the parts, sentences, or paragraphs to the sources listed in the reference list, the reader, Bob, would not have a clue about “which information is coming from which reference”. So Bob might end up reading all 10 references to see what he is looking for.

Therefore it is essential to cite the articles used in the research in both in-text and linking them with the reference list.