

Running head: APA FORMAT SAMPLE PAPER

Running head: Use abbreviated title in all uppercase letters. Do not exceed 50 characters. Should be flush left at top of every page (p. 229)

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Page Number: Place in upper right-hand corner-on same line as the running head (p. 230)

APA Format Sample Paper: The Great World and Other Stuff

John Doe

Spartanburg Community College

Title and byline: Center in upper half of the page. APA suggests that the title be no more than 12 words in length. Use upper and lower case letters. Include your name and name of college. Check with instructor to see if more information (date, class, etc.) is required (p. 23)

Double-space paper and title page. Use Times New Roman typeface and 1 inch margins (p. 41)

Abstract

An abstract is a brief summary of your paper. According to the APA manual, your abstract should be a single paragraph in block format and between 150 and 250 words (p. 25-27; 41; 229). Your instructor will let you know if an abstract is required for your assignment.

APA Format Sample Paper: The Great World and Other Stuff

The world is full of interesting trivia. For example, events in history often have strange back stories. When Darwin sent a copy of *The Origin of Species* to an important British publisher, the editor said the book was nice but would not sell. He advised Darwin to write a nice book on pigeons because, of course, everyone likes pigeons (Bryson, 2003, p. 381). Names are also interesting. The “Yippies” were a short lived group in the 60’s who staged some poorly planned protests (Holloway, 2000). Even animals have strange names. A cat encyclopedia describes a Ragdoll as a cat, not a toy (“Ragdoll,” 1997).

Not all the stories about names are believable, though. In his book, *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, Bryson (2003) tells how explorers came back with strange tales of the “homo caudatus” or “man with a tail” (p. 382). Just as strange are some of local laws. For example, according to one source (James, 2003), it is illegal to walk around in high-heeled shoes in Carmel-by-the Sea, California. Places can be interesting, too. One science website (Loveridge, 2004) mentions how a person can “see both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans on a clear day from the Republic of Panama.” Fairy tales and nursery rhymes are particularly rich in odd information. For example, one scholar (Honeyman, 2007) has analyzed the symbolism of gingerbread in tales such as “Hansel and Gretel” and found that, among other things, it symbolizes temptation. This is very interesting, considering we now live in a society where food is used for more than nourishment and candy is advertised to parents as a way of “showing affection” to their children (Schwartz, Chen, & Brownell, 2003, p. 207). Besides their symbolism, the origins of nursery rhymes are also interesting. According to legend (“The Man,” 2003), the Man in the Moon was placed in the moon as punishment for collecting sticks on Sunday. So a lot of interesting, if useless, information can be discovered in the most unlikely of places. This all just goes to show we live in a really quirky world!

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