**Lesson 13: Bibliography in scientific research**

**Introduction:**

There are many sources for bibliography as books**,** journals**,** Periodicals/ Magazines**,** websites . [[1]](#footnote-2)

Proper citation and bibliography information is necessary in research papers and other written assignments. It is required that you use proper references whenever necessary, when you use the ideas of other people.

Failure to properly give credit to your source of information comprises plagiarism i.e., taking the ideas of another person and using them as if they were your own ideas.Plagiarizing can subject you to administrative action or disciplinary penalty.

When you use the 3 or more exact words of other authors. Indicate the direct quote “by the use of quotation marks.

Do not use direct quotes as a crutch when you paraphrase the words of someone else, i.e., when you use the idea, but not the exact words, of another person [[2]](#footnote-3)

**1-What is a bibliography?**

In general, bibliography is the set of research sources that people should use to develop the theoretical foundation of their [academic paper](https://blog.mettzer.com/paper-abstract/).

You may already know, but the theoretical foundation – which can also be called bibliographic review, theoretical references or literature review – is the review of research and discussions by other authors on a theme.

In other words: it is the contribution of other authors’ theories to your research.

Therefore, the bibliography is the set of these research sources about a particular theme on which the discussion of a new research begins.

So, the bibliography includes the product of research sources, which can be books, scientific journals and scientific papers, for example.

For this reason, the bibliography refers to the list of bibliographical references of an academic paper, which is the identification list of each research source that constitutes your bibliography.

The list of bibliographical references is the place where you must identify all the bibliographies you have used, based on elements such as author, title, edition, publisher and date of publication. [[3]](#footnote-4)

The bibliography is helpful to the reader in gaining information regarding the literature available on the topic and what influenced the author. For better presentation and convenient reading, the bibliography can be grouped into two parts, wherein the first part lists out the names of books and pamphlets consulted, and the other contains the names of magazines and newspapers considered. [[4]](#footnote-5)

**2-Gathering Information:**

Regardless of what citation style is being used, there are key pieces of information that need to be collected in order to create the citation.

**For books and/or journals:**

* Author name
* Title of publication
* Article title (if using a journal)
* Date of publication
* Place of publication
* Publisher
* Volume number of a journal, magazine or encyclopedia
* Page number(s)

**For websites:**

* Author and/or editor name
* Title of the website
* Company or organization that owns or posts to the website
* URL (website address)
* Date of access .
* This section provides two examples of the most common cited sources: a print book and an online journal retrieved from a research database.
* **Book – Print:**
* For print books, bibliographic information can be found on the **TITLE PAGE**. This page has the complete title of the book, author(s) and publication information.
* The publisher information will vary according to the publisher - sometimes this page will include the name of the publisher, the place of publication and the date.

**3-What is a Reference ?**

Reference can be understood as the act of giving credit to or mentioning the name of, someone or something. In research methodology, it denotes the items which you have reviewed and referred to, in the text, in your research work. It is nothing but a way to acknowledge or indirectly showing gratitude, towards the sources from where the information is gathered.

While using references, one thing is to be noted that you go for reliable sources only, because it increases credence and also supports your arguments. It may include, books, research papers, or articles from magazines, journals, newspapers, etc., interview transcripts, internet sources such as websites, blogs, videos watched, and so forth.

These are used to inform the reader about the sources of direct quotations, tables, statistics, photos etc. that are included in the research work. [[5]](#footnote-6)

# 4-Difference Between Reference and Bibliography :

While writing an assignment, article or book, the writer often looks for the sources to generate an idea or data. In this context, students usually misconstrue bibliography for reference, but they are different, in the sense that you give **reference** to the sources, that you have quoted in-text, in the research report or assignment. But on the other hand, in the **bibliography**, you create a list of all the sources you have gone through to conceive the idea.

Reference and Bibliography is an important part of any project under study because it helps in acknowledging other’s work and also help the readers in finding the original sources of information. It not only prevents plagiarism but also indicates that the writer has done good research on the subject by using a variety of sources to gain information. [[6]](#footnote-7)

Bibliography and references appear synonymous and thus, most of us try to use them interchangeably. But did you know this isn’t right? While both of them appear similar, there is this small difference that actually makes a lot of sense if you get to know it.

If we see the definition of reference, is the citation of all the works/sources that one used “within the body of the paper”. This is the most important key difference. While references refer to the work that is present within the paper, a bibliography refers to the works which are “not specifically referred to within the body of the paper” that is, it needn’t be necessary for a bibliography to have the exact sources on its body and you can cite a source even if you just used it to refer something regarding the topic. [[7]](#footnote-8)

**5-Types of Bibliography:**

* **Bibliography of works cited**: It contains the name of those books whose content has been cited in the text of the research report.
* **Selected Bibliography**: As it is evident from the name itself, selected bibliography covers only those works which the author assumes that are of major interest to the reader.
* **Annotated Bibliography**: In this type of bibliography, a small description of the items covered is given by the author to ensure readability and also improve the usefulness of the book. [[8]](#footnote-9)

**6-Steps To Write A Bibliography In Research Paper:**

The initial and foremost step to be followed before writing a bibliography is to make a note of all the books/sources/works you read when you’re doing your background research for a paper.

Once you have a list of the books or sources, you need to check for the following information in the source :

If it is printed, check out for

* Authors’ name
* Title of publication
* Date of publication
* The publishing company of a book
* Page number(s)

If it is from a website, check out for

* Author and editor name
* Title of the webpage
* The company that posted that webpage
* URL of that webpage

Before writing out your bibliography, you should know that there are two major guidelines for writing a bibliography (MLA Format and APA Format), and use them according to the need of your paper.

Once you’re done writing a bibliography, make sure that you cited all the sources that you mentioned in the paper and whether you cited them in the correct format or not.

If there are any mistakes or necessary changes, make them before you submit your paper.

Writing a bibliography might be a tiresome process as there’s a huge list of sources that need to be mentioned but adding a bibliography gives your research paper a more professional touch and sets your paper apart from the rest of the crowd.[[9]](#footnote-10)

**7-Why do we need to use bibliography in academic research?**

* Do you know why is it necessary to organize a bibliography in your academic paper?
* Well, the answer is simple. The best way to develop a theoretical basis for your ideas in a paper is to seek references from other researchers who have already written about that subject.
* And it all starts with a good literature search. It consists of collecting reliable research sources and analyzing each content.
* That is, from writing through renowned theories and scientific research of other people you can show your academic paper has theoretical support.
* This is where citations and references come into the picture. After all, to use concepts and theories from other authors, you need to reference them to give due credit. Right?
* We call citations the direct or indirect quotes developed along the paper and references the list of research sources that appears at the end of the paper.
* Only by using bibliographic references properly can your research be seen as reliable according to scientific standards.
* If you don’t do that you are using someone else’s work without giving them proper credit that characterizes plagiarism.
* Because of this, bibliography is a mandatory requirement for academic papers.[[10]](#footnote-11)

# 8-The purpose of Bibliography:

A bibliography is a list of books, scholarly [articles](https://www.thoughtco.com/journal-articles-1857182), speeches, private records, diaries, interviews, laws, letters, websites, and other sources you use when researching a [topic](https://www.thoughtco.com/choosing-a-strong-research-topic-1857337) and writing a paper. The bibliography appears at the end.

The main purpose of a bibliography entry is to give credit to authors whose work you've consulted in your research. It also makes it easy for a reader to find out more about your topic by delving into the research that you used to write your paper. In the academic world, papers aren't written in a vacuum; academic journals are the way new research on a topic circulates and previous work is built upon.

Bibliography entries must be written in a very specific format, but that format will depend on the particular style of writing you follow. Your teacher or publisher will tell you which style to use, and for most academic papers it will be either [MLA](https://www.thoughtco.com/mla-bibliography-or-works-cited-1857244), American Psychological Association (APA), Chicago (author-date citations or footnotes/endnotes format), or [Turabian style](https://www.thoughtco.com/turabian-style-guide-with-examples-1857607).

The bibliography is sometimes also called the references, works cited, or works consulted page. [[11]](#footnote-12)

1. J Wilfred Angello Gerald: **A Topographic outline of Research Methodology** , Research Department of Human Resource Management ST.Joseph’s College [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. **Citations and Bibliography , https://local.psy.miami.edu.rsrch.howtocite** [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Por [Jocieli Decol](https://blog.mettzer.com/author/joci/) : **Organizing your research bibliography can be easier than it sounds**

   [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Difference Between Reference and Bibliography [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Difference Between Reference and Bibliography [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Difference Between Reference and Bibliography [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. [Sowjanya Pedada](https://mindthegraph.com/blog/author/sowjanya/) : Bibliography In Research Paper: Know Everything About It, Mind eth graph, 2022 [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. [**Grace Fleming**](https://www.thoughtco.com/grace-fleming-1856759) : **What Is a Bibliography?** **June 24, 2018** [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. [Sowjanya Pedada](https://mindthegraph.com/blog/author/sowjanya/) : Bibliography In Research Paper: Know Everything About It, Mind eth graph, 2022 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Por [Jocieli Decol](https://blog.mettzer.com/author/joci/) : **Organizing your research bibliography can be easier than it sounds**

    [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. [**Grace Fleming**](https://www.thoughtco.com/grace-fleming-1856759) : **What Is a Bibliography?** **June 24, 2018** [↑](#footnote-ref-12)