

# APA Format - Using Direct Quotes

**Changing a word within a direct quote. Your word(s) are put in brackets:**

**Original text:** “Now the one-size-fits-all phase of education has ended for Jane & John in our classes” (Smith, 2003, p. 7).

**Change:** “Now the one-size-fits-all phase of education has ended for [students] in our classes” (Smith, 2003, p. 7).

**Leaving out an unnecessary section within the quote:**

**Original text:** “Now the one-size-fits-all phase of education has ended for Jane & John in our classes” (Smith, 2003, p. 7).

**Change:** “Now the one-size-fits-all phase of education has ended... in our classes” (Smith, 2003, p. 7).

**Incorporating a piece of a quote into your own sentence:**

**Original text:** “Now the one-size-fits-all phase of education has ended for Jane & John in our classes” (Smith, 2003, p. 7).

**Change 1:** I will no longer be using the old model of “one-size-fits-all education” (Smith, 2003, p. 7) in my classroom.

**Change 2:** “One-size-fits-all education” (Smith, 2003, p. 7) just does not work anymore.

## Adapting a Quotation:

Remember, the idea is to use your *own words* whenever possible.

We can use someone’s ideas or their theories without using direct quotes. Only use a direct quote when it can be said no better way. When a direct quote is used, try not to use even a whole sentence when only a few words or part of a sentence will work.

I find that a good rule to follow is that only one out of every three citations (or less) should be a direct quote.