

Writing the Research Paper

Clean Up Your In-Text

Now it is time to go through your paper and get rid of unnecessary in-text. Here is how you do it:

- Within paragraphs, if you have consecutive cites from the same source that do not have page numbers (i.e. web pages), eliminate all cites but the last one (only within paragraphs).
- For consecutive cites that have the same page number, eliminate all but the last one (within paragraphs).
- For consecutive cites that have different page numbers, eliminate all but the page number on all but the first one (this extends into other paragraphs).
- Here is an example. All crossed out cites or words need to be eliminated.

Look at the following paper excerpt from a student paper about the Loch Ness Monster. The marked out words and citations are not needed.

The Loch Ness Monster is often called Nessie or just plain Ness (~~Smith 56~~). The monster is either an unidentified animal, or possibly a group of animals that live in Loch Ness, a large lake in Scotland (Smith 56). Sit Peter Scott, a cryptozoologist, gave Nessie the scientific name *Nessiteras rhombopteryx* (~~Smith 35~~). There is no evidence to suggest Nessie's gender, but since the nickname sound like a girl's name, the monster is often referred to as a she (Brown 37).

Nessie is one of the best known mysterious creatures, along with Bigfoot and the Abominable Snowman (~~Brown 48~~). Despite the many siting, most scientists claim that evidence is misunderstood or just hoaxes put on by people who are desperate to believe in the creature ("~~Creature~~"). However, the belief in the animal is still strong throughout the world. The most popular theory is that the creature is dinosaur that survived the extinction, most likely a plesiosaur ("~~Creature~~").

Some have argued that the sheer number of sightings proves the monster is real ("~~Creature~~"). Even though much of the sightings are sketchy at best, there have still been over 10,000 sightings since 1930 ("~~Creature~~").

Now you try. Look at the essay below and mark out the in-text that is not needed.

Stan Lee's inspiration for the Fantastic Four can certainly be attributed to Wertham's attack on comic books ("Wertham"). While it is true that it was the stimulus for Stan Lee to actually write it, the actual inspiration probably came from the tense working conditions made from all the firings Stan had to do in the wake of the book's impact (Berger). What made the team so different from anything that the competition was producing was that the team had problems (Berger). DC was full of millionaires running around with expensive gadgets (Daniels 155) while Marvel's heroes often had money troubles and argued with each other (Daniels 180).

Even though DC still did well with revivals of their older heroes, especially the Flash (Daniels 183), Marvel's "heroes with problems" really hit it big (Howe). Spider-Man was a teen who was still picked on (McNeill). Iron Man had a drinking problem (McNeill). The Hulk couldn't change his transformations (McNeill). This was much different than the problems the DC characters faced.

People could identify with characters that struggled with the same issues that they faced – rent, broken hearts, and bullies (McNeill). It also gave the characters a depth to them and gave the medium of comic books more validity (Howe). More importantly, it gave companies like Marvel a chance to hire back some of the creators and artists they had to fire earlier (Howe). Not all of them came back happy (Howe).