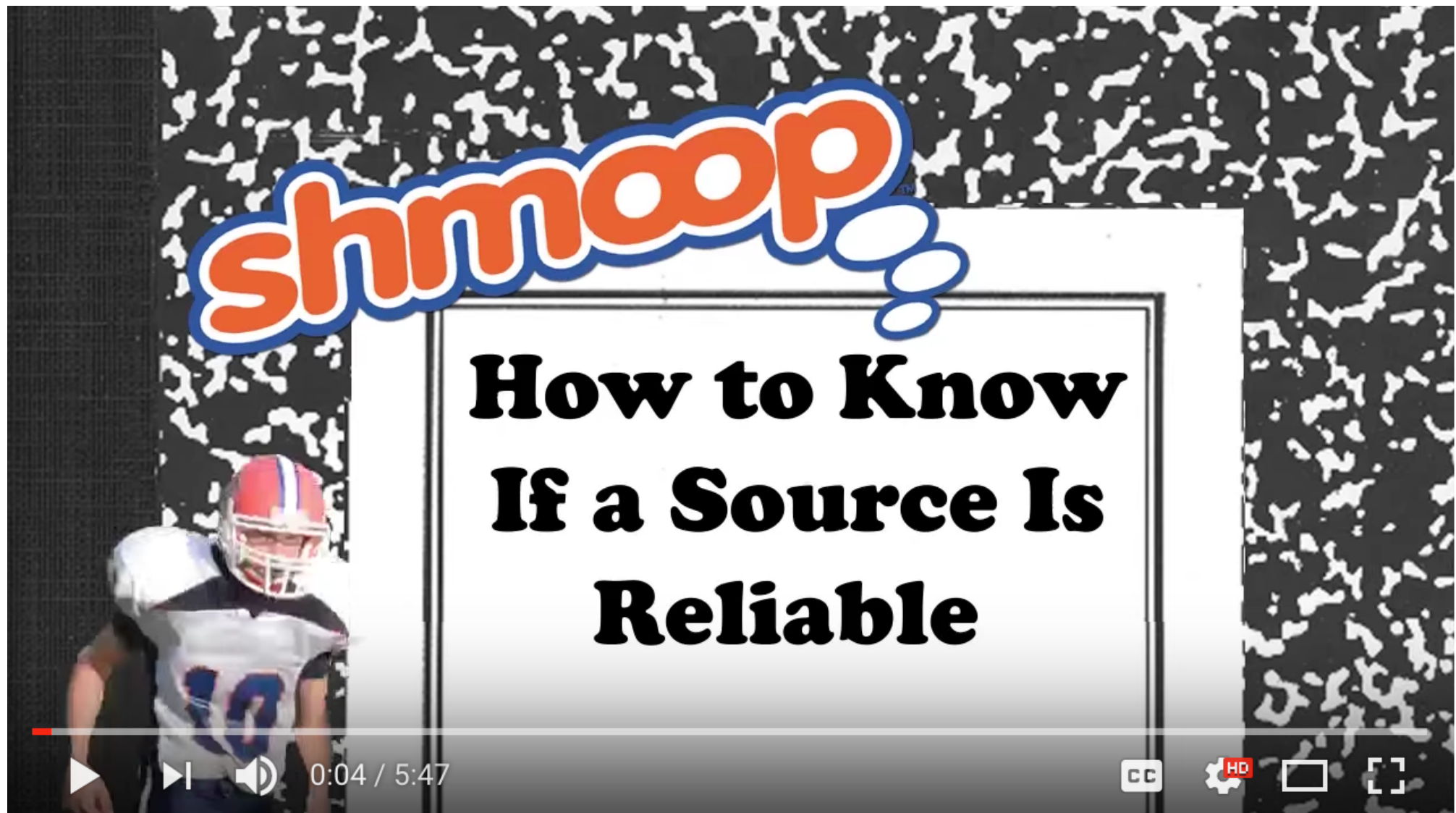# How to CITE an Online Source of Information

How to give credit to a source you pulled information from

Yesterday we learned about how to make sure we're using reliable online sources to research a topic. Let's review that with a quick 5 minute video!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_EAxomGhNY

How to CITE an Online Source of Information

How to give credit to a source you pulled a quote from

Here's the situation…

Riley, my labrador, is prone to getting ear infections. I've been to the veterinarian, I've been to the doggie dermatologist (yes, that's a real thing) and there are so many reasons why her ear infections keep coming back. I learned some good information from the veterinarians I've been to and we're working to solve the problem, but I want to learn even more about it so I understand more of what my vet is talking about the next time I take Riley to see her (And no, Riley isn't scared of the vet. She loves the attention!).

I found some trustworthy, reliable websites online and I copied a few quotes or parts of quotes because I want to remember the information.

Ok, so now that I have the quotes and the information and everything, I need to make sure I know what to DO with that information. I have to be able to CITE the sources so my vet won't think I'm just making stuff up. Here's how I'll do it:

Here's a website I found about ear infections in dogs. After looking it over, I decided it wasn't a "relevant" source of information for me to use because there were so many advertisements all over it that it was annoying trying to navigate through it all just to keep reading the article. Plus, I couldn't find a date for the article. What if the information is old? What if there are better treatments out there that I wouldn't know about if the information here is not up to date? Since my topic is health-related, I definitely want the best, most current information.

Ok, here's a good source of information on another website. My dog's ear infections are "chronic" because they don't ever really seem to go away, so the title of the article is relevant to me. Also, look at the subtitle. Remember that I want to know more about how to stop the ear infections? Maybe this will help me stop them from happening in the first place. Plus, there's an actual author mentioned, and I can see that the article was updated a year ago. That's current enough for me! So I'll use this article.

Chronic Ear Infections in Canines

👍 Like 9.1K   Share   🐦 Tweet   G+1 ⟨ 35 ⟩   ➕ Share ⟨ 543 ⟩
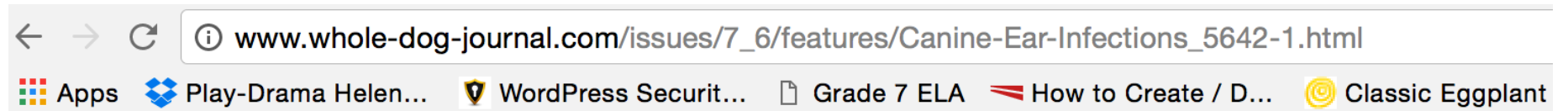
Sometimes, just knowing how to clean your dog's ears the old-fashioned way is better than the newest antibitoic.

By CJ Puotinen

[Updated February 5, 2016]

Chronic ear infections are the bane of long-eared dogs, swimming dogs, recently vaccinated puppies, old dogs, dogs with an abundance of ear wax, and dogs with allergies, thyroid imbalances, or immune system disorders. In other words, ear infections are among the most common recurring canine problems.

www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/7_6/features/Canine-Ear-Infections_5642-1.html

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Chronic Ear Infections in Canines

Title of Article

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Chronic ear infections are the bane of long-eared dogs, swimming dogs, recently vaccinated puppies, old dogs, dogs with an abundance of ear wax, and dogs with allergies, thyroid imbalances, or immune system disorders. In other words, ear infections are among the most common recurring canine problems.

In conventional veterinary medicine, infected ears are often

Story Tools

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What You Can Do

– Keep your dog's ears clean. Use a gentle cleaning agent such as green tea, or a commercial product such as Halo's Natural Herbal Ear Wash.

– Use a pinch of boric acid to keep the dog's ears dry and acidified.

– Consult your holistic veterinarian in cases of severe or chronic

Article title. (Year, Month Date of publication). Retrieved from
URL web address

Chronic Ear Infections in Dogs. (2016, February 3). Retrieved from
http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/7_6/features/Canine-
Ear-Infections_5642-1.html

I'm off to a great start!
That was a helpful website with a nice article that I found interesting, relevant, and current.

You know what? I actually ended up finding three websites with credible information written by actual doctors who have authority and experience! I'm going to use to help me understand my dog's ear infection issues.

I need to list those three sources on their own separate page that I'll call the "Works Cited" page. Some people also refer to it as a "Bibliography" page.

Here's what that looks like:

Works Cited

Becker, D.K. *Itchy, Smelly Dog? Yeast Infection May Be the Problem.*
(2011, May 03). Retrieved from http://healthypets/
archive/2011/05/03

Orgel, Elie C. *Dog Ear Infections: Symptoms, Causes, Treatments,*
and Prevention. (2015 November 23). Retrieved from http://
www.akc.org/content/health/articles/dog-ear-infections/

Puotinen, C.J. *Chronic Ear Infections in Dogs*. (2016, February 3).
Retrieved from http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues /7_6/
features/Canine-Ear-Infections_5642-1.html

Everything you see on a Works Cited page is there for a reason. It must be exact.

So let's talk about what was done on that Works Cited page and point out some specific things.

Look at the example of a Works Cited page on your desk and let's use the questions on the next few slides to talk about what we see that we want to make sure we're doing on our own Works Cited page when we create one!

Question 1

Look at the title of the page. Notice it's titled as Works Cited and not "Works Cited" or <u>Works Cited</u>.

With your partner or small group, talk about the actual meaning of the title Works Cited.

Question 1 Answer

The meaning of Works Cited is that the "works" are the online sources, like each website you get information from is considered a piece of "work".

The word "cited" means that you are "citing" or listing & showing which online "works" you're using for the information you're getting.

Question 2

With your partner or small group, talk about what you notice about the way the lines of the sources are indented.

Question 2 Answer

You know how normally you indent the first line in a paragraph? Well, for a Works Cited page, you start at the far left side and then if you need more lines below that, then you indent all those other lines! It's called a "hanging indention" because the top line of each source "hangs" out over the other lines! Fun, right?

Question 3

With your partner or small group, talk about
what you notice about the order of the three sources.
How did I know in what order to list them?

Question 3 Answer

**The three sources are listed in order of author's last name, so it's all alphabetical based on last name!
So easy, right?
Right!**

And do you see how the only time we skip a line is between the actual entries? ONLY skip a line between the sources you are citing. DO NOT skip a line within the actual entries.

Question 4

With your partner or small group, talk about what you think you'd have to do if you found an amazing article from a trustworthy, credible website but there was no author listed.

Question 4 Answer

If you found an amazing article from a trustworthy, credible website but there was no author listed, you would simply leave the author's name off the Works Cited page and just start with the title of the article, like this:

Itchy, Smelly Dog? Yeast Infection May Be the Problem. (2011, May 03). Retrieved from http://healthypets/archive/ 2011/05/03

Also, you would still alphabetize this information in your list based on the "I" in the title.

Question 5

With your partner or small group, talk about what you notice about the punctuation used throughout each entry. **What's capitalized and what's not?** **Why is certain information italicized?** **Where are the periods used?** **What about the way the date is written?**

Question 5 Answers

What's capitalized and what's not?
- The title of the article, the author's name or initials, dates
- Don't worry about capitalization within the URL

Why is certain information italicized?
-   Titles of website articles can be italicized for emphasis

Where are the periods used?
-   At the end of the website or article title & after the date

What about the way the date is written?
-   year with a comma, month spelled fully, day
-   place it all in parenthesis

Question 5 Answers

What's capitalized and what's not?
- The title of the article, the author's name or initials, dates
- Don't worry about capitalization within the URL
Why is certain information italicized?
-   Titles of website articles can be italicized for emphasis
Where are the periods used?
-   At the end of the website or article title & after the date
What about the way the date is written?
-   year with a comma, month spelled fully, day
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LET'S PRACTICE!

Use your list of credible, reliable online sources from yesterday to research a topic you're interested in.

You don't have to actually write a research paper today!

All you have to do is think of a topic that interests you, find three articles using those websites to learn more about it, and then create a Works Cited page where you list and write the three specific sources you used the most today.

LET'S GET STARTED!