



The Skills Hub

Latin abbreviations commonly used in citation for referencing or in bibliographies

Abbreviation Usage.

et al.	<p>This is used where there is more than one author to mean 'and others'</p> <p><i>e.g.</i> Pears, R. et al.</p>
ibid.	<p>This is used when citing from the same book again in footnotes and bibliographies. It means 'in the same place' and is used when citing from the same book again directly after a previous citation, e.g.</p> <p>1. C. T. Martin, <i>The record interpreter: a collection of abbreviations, Latin words and names used in English historical manuscripts and records</i>, 2nd edn (London: Stevens, 1910), p. 16.</p> <p>2. <i>ibid.</i>, p. 25. The reference in no. 2 is the same as in no. 1 except that the page is different. Unless you are citing from exactly the same page, you follow <i>ibid.</i> with the new page number.</p>
op. cit.	<p>This is used when referring to a source that has previously been cited and means 'in the work cited', e.g.</p> <p>1. C. T. Martin, <i>The record interpreter: a collection of abbreviations, Latin words and names used in English historical manuscripts and records</i>, 2nd edn (London: Stevens, 1910), p. 16.</p> <p>2. R. Pears and G. Shields, <i>Cite them right: referencing made easy</i> (Newcastle upon Tyne: Northumbria University Press, 2004), p.50.</p> <p>3. Martin, <i>op. cit.</i>, p. 20.</p> <p>The reference in no. 3 is the same as in no. 1 except that the page is different.</p>
passim	<p>This is used where a word occurs frequently throughout a text,</p> <p><i>e.g.</i>, an entry in an index reading 'coal: 78-86 <i>passim</i>' means that coal is mentioned throughout pages 78 to 86.</p>