

Citations (*Understand the why / purpose more than the form*). **P.D. Tanner**

Citations show the source of the information or quotations you use to help make your argument and provide support. Citations give credit to the authors of the words or ideas that you use in your paper. Use citations when you quote from someone, paraphrase another's ideas, make some reference to another's work, or use data or statistics from a source. The citation is given in the text, with the information you are citing.

Having citations gives the reader a better understanding of your work and shows that you have researched your topic. Having a lot of citations can provide a better balance and support your argument with more than just your opinion.

Capital Punishment in Japan: a sample introduction

Instructions: Read the sample introduction paragraph below. After each sentence, decide if it needs a citation, and put an 'X' after the sentence in which there should be a citation.

One of the biggest problems of crime and punishment in the world is the issue of capital punishment, otherwise known as the death penalty⁽¹⁾. Currently, 56 countries have a death penalty, while 142 countries have outlawed or do not enforce a death penalty⁽²⁾. Around the world, the death penalty is enforced in different manners, including electrocution (the electric chair), lethal injection, shooting by firing squad, stoning, or hanging⁽³⁾. Japan has a death penalty, with the executions taking place by hanging⁽⁴⁾. There is a long history of capital punishment in Japan⁽⁵⁾. However, beginning in the Nara period, the death penalty was used less and was completely outlawed in the Heian period⁽⁶⁾. It began again during the Hogen rebellion and was used widely in the Kamakura and Muromachi period⁽⁷⁾. Starting in the Meiji era, the number of crimes punishable by death decreased⁽⁸⁾. A nine-point sentencing guideline was made in 1983, which explained the criteria for deciding on the death penalty⁽⁹⁾. From 2009, Japan began using a lay judge system which consists of six randomly chosen citizens and three professional judges⁽¹⁰⁾. While most Japanese citizens support the death penalty, the concept is still controversial⁽¹¹⁾. In this essay, I will examine and analyze both sides of the argument and then offer my opinion about my beliefs about capital punishment.

Please explain why the above sentences needed a citation or not.

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