When to reference

There are 7 key scenarios when you need to provide a reference in your academic writing:

Scenario	Example (using APA referencing)
1. Quoting directly from a source	Tomlinson (1999) defines globalisation as the "rapidly developing and ever-densening network of interconnections and interdependences that characterize modern social life" (p. 2).
2. Putting another author's ideas into your own words	Wildlife corridors play a crucial role in maintaining New Zealand's biodiversity (Park, 1995).
3. Copying tables, figures, graphs, diagrams, statistics, or illustrations from another author	Figure 1. Youth unemployment rate vs. total unemployment rate: 2006-2011. Youth unemployment rate refers to the unemployed population aged 15-24 years old. Copyright 2013 by Euromonitor International. Reprinted with permission.*
4. Stating information which is not "common knowledge", i.e. not widely understood to be true	The Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. (This is common knowledge so no reference is required.) The Treaty was displayed publically for the first time in the Treaty House at Waitangi in 1940. (This is not common knowledge so a reference is required.)
5. Stating information which is not widely accepted in your field/discipline	Sitting for long periods of time can cause serious health problems (DeWinter, 2013; Rogers, 2014).
6. Explaining or discussing a theory or model developed by a particular author or group of authors	The instability of meaning associated with the art and literature of the late twentieth century has been explained by poststructuralist theories (Barthes, 1967; Baudrillard, 1968; Foucault, 1975).
7. Discussing research carried out by other scholars	Recent research has questioned the effectiveness of sunscreen in preventing skin cancer (Amsel et al., 2013; Bulgakov, 2012; Higgins, 2013; Mortimer, Fink, & Green, 2010; Thomas et al., 2011).

* See the UC Library website for more information on APA referencing for figures and tables.