Unit 2 Investigating the 1852 Gundagai Flood
Student Resource 2:
Referencing sources in history

History Learning Sequences
Developed by the History Teachers'
Association of Australia (HTAA)

When we write an essay in History, we do it *after* we have accessed a range of primary and secondary sources, which may include documents, newspaper reports, books, websites, documentaries and movies. Analysing and evaluating these sources helps us to understand and form our own opinions or judgements about the past.

We acknowledge the sources we have used in our writing through a referencing system. This enables us to show where we have made use of someone else's words or ideas in our work. This helps give our work greater authority than if we simply provided our own narrative or opinion without showing how we developed them.

Footnotes or Endnotes

Footnotes or endnotes are additional information, such as source details or a brief explanation, presented at the bottom of the page or the end of the text, to avoid disrupting the flow of your writing. A footnote or endnote is indicated in the main text by a small superscript number with the associated note at the bottom of the page for a footnote or grouped together at the end of your essay for endnotes. If you are using Microsoft Word, footnotes and endnotes are easily inserted. Click on References then choose Insert Footnote or Insert Endnote.

What to reference

Direct quotation: This is when you use someone's exact words. The quoted words must be placed in quotation marks, with a footnote or endnote number at the end.

Paraphrase or indirect quotation: This is when you express someone else's ideas in your own words. The footnote or endnote number comes at the end of the sentence, after the full stop.

Quotations of more than two lines: These should be indented, without quotation marks, and a footnote or endnote number provided at the end of the quotation, after the full stop.

Other sources that need to be referenced: These include images, figures, tables, graphs, maps, diagrams and screenshots from websites or still images from movies.

Sample referencing direct and indirect quotations

One victim of the flood, a woman with four young children, the youngest only 10 days old, spent two days and nights stranded with her family on the roof of their house while the floodwaters raged around them. She described the suffering of her neighbours whose houses had been washed away:

> We could now see a few poor creatures clinging on the trees calling for help; as the day drew on their voices became more weak, their cries more faint; one after another dropped, and were swept away.[1]

Other accounts describe similar experiences. James Gormly and his brother lost their parents in the flood but they survived by swimming a great distance, then clinging to the branches of a tree for a day and a night.[2]

---

1. 'The Flood at Gundagai', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 March, 1885, p.5
   Online: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/28640948
2. 'Mr James Gormly MLA', *Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 2 October 1897, p.117
   Online: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/163798414

Guidelines for referencing sources

Books and journals
Name of author
Title of the source, in *italics* or <u>underlined</u> — but not both
Name of the city and publisher of the source
Date of publication (and page numbers for a journal article)

Example Mackenzie, David, *The emigrant's guide, or, Ten years practical experience in Australia,* London, W.S. Orr, 1845 Online: https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-85182050/view?partId=nla.obj-85182146

Newspapers and magazines
Author (if provided)
Article title in quotation marks
Name of publication in italics or underlined
Date of publication and page number(s)
URL (website address) if the newspaper or magazine was accessed online

Example Doubleday, Wayne, 'Gundagai's Great Flood', *Riverina Weekender*, 30 June and 1 July, 2012, p. 12 Online as PDF: http://monumentaustralia.org.au/australian_monument/display/93945

Internet sources
Author and/or title of the source
URL (website address)
Date you accessed the source online is optional

Example Plaque commemorating the victims of the 1852 flood at Gundagai Monument Australia http://monumentaustralia.org.au/australian_monument/display/93945

For more detailed and annotated examples of referencing, see Student use of Referencing (SR 3).

Reference list (or bibliography)

At the end of your essay, list the sources you have used, even if they have already been included in your footnotes or endnotes. Use the same guidelines as provided above. Arrange the references alphabetically according to the author's last name. Where the author's name is not provided, arrange according to the first word of the publication or article title.

References

Doubleday, Wayne, 'Gundagai's Great Flood', *Riverina Weekender*, 30 June and 1 July, 2012
Online as PDF: http://monumentaustralia.org.au/australian_monument/display/93945

Mackenzie, David, *The emigrant's guide, or, Ten years practical experience in Australia,* London, W.S. Orr, 1845
Online: https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-85182050/view?partId=nla.obj-85182146

'The Flood at Gundagai', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 March, 1885
Online: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/28640948