

Running Head: COUNTRY LIVING

APA requires a Running Head for publication. See APA, p. 296, section 5.15

Pagination and Page Header.
See APA p. 288. Use Word's
"header/footer" feature. See
<http://tinyurl.com/r6crh>

Country Living is the Life for Me

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The title is in upper and lowercase letters, centered between the left and right margins and positioned in the upper half of the page (See APA, p. 296) An example is available on p. 306. Title is also double spaced. See <http://tinyurl.com/mco5q>

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If you don't have Microsoft Word, PowerPoint or Excel, you can download clones of it from <http://openoffice.org>. The clone programs can be imported into Microsoft Office products.

APA does not permit use of the word "Introduction" as a level heading. Instead, begin the text of the paper by including the **same** title as the title on the title page (centered, upper, and lower case). See APA, p. 298, 5.17

Country Living is the Life for Me

Where do you live? Do you like big cities with lots of people? Do you prefer dirt roads and farmland? Are you happiest when you can run from the mall to the Chinese restaurant and still make it in time to the video store? Or do you prefer the slow pace of life and quiet living?

I should have known when I married a farm boy that my life would change forever. I grew up in the city. In case you have never been there, this is a place where we rode our bikes down sidewalks. In this place called the city, we always locked our doors. We checked them. We rechecked them. Then, we locked the deadbolt. Darkness never truly falls in the city; the streetlights are too bright. This was just the way I liked it! When my husband said he wanted to move to his grandparents' farm and build our house in the woods, I needed more than a little convincing. And just as everything in the country moves slowly, I also slowly began to realize that living in the country is better than living in the city.

Indent the first line of each paragraph. Use the tab key, which should be set at five to seven spaces, or ½ inch. See APA, p. 289.

Conclude your introduction with your thesis sentence that blueprints the essay to follow.

Level One Heading (See APA, p. 113)

No Crime? No Problem!

First, rural America is not special because of the things that it has, but because of the things it does not have. I love living in the country because we do not have smog. The air we breathe is both clean. The only dirt in the air is from the quiet dusty roads. Our cars may be covered in red dust, but our lungs are clear. Since I have moved to the country, I have learned that someone could go out on her porch in her underwear (only if she wanted to, of course,) without the fear of embarrassment. In the country, we do not have nosy neighbors just across a patch of green and concrete peering in our windows.

Also, in the country, we do not have to worry about crime, as most people know it. Ordinary thieves cannot find us. Instead we have wildlife. The deer steal our corn and peanuts, and the rabbits eat our peas. Living in the country is peaceful, private, and quiet.

Welcome to Cheers, USA

Want to be where everyone knows your name? If not, then don't move to the country. In the community I live in there is one convenience store with a fried chicken and tater log restaurant attached. This is where all the locals have breakfast on Saturday mornings, including my family. When we walk in, we have to be prepared to tell where my in-laws are today and why they are not there yet. But the familiarity does not stop at the Country Corner. When I take my daughter to school, we all know which teacher was in church Sunday, who was out of town, and whose husband's cotton was picked over the weekend. Some people may not be comfortable with this way of life. For me, the strong sense of community is one of the things I love about the country.

Goodbye to Drive-by Culture

Lastly, living in the country is not for everyone. I admit it—sometimes living in the country is not convenient. I drive twenty-two miles to Wal-Mart. I grocery shop once a week and never run out “just to pick up a couple of things.” Starbucks is not a part of my galaxy. If everyone lived in the country, I would never be able to get a pedicure, go to a movie, or eat sushi. I am willing to wait for certain things other people need close by. This way of life works well for me.

If the dirt roads are too dirty, and the quiet is too quiet, and the wildlife is too wild, don't worry. If you don't think you cannot live without pizza delivery, and garbage pick up is a priority, no problem. You really do not have to move to the country. I will not be upset. The nicest part of living in the country is that everybody does not do it. New York City, Paris, Hollywood, and Savannah are all great places to visit. Live there? Not me! Once I was city girl, but now proudly consider myself a country girl. If you turn off the paved road and find my house in the woods, stop by and have a glass of lemonade. Just be warned, I cannot promise you will want to leave.