Changing APA to CBE/CSE citation style

Different citation formats serve different purposes, but they all use the same basic information. Author, title, journal, date, volume, issue, pages, format, etc.

In Biology, the **Council of Biological Editors/Council of Science Editors** (CBE/CSE) is common. It is similar to APA, but simpler.

Here is an APA citation:


Here is the same citation in CBE (name/year style):


**Differences and how to change an APA citation to CBE:**

1. APA has commas between the author last names and the initials, and periods after the initials. CBE does not have most of that punctuation, but does keep the commas between names (i.e. after the initials). **Remove the commas after last names, and the periods after initials.**
2. APA has parentheses around the year. CBE does not. **Remove the parentheses around the year.**
3. APA puts the Journal Title and Volume Number in *italics*. CBE does not. **Change the journal title and volume number from *italics* to normal.**
4. APA has a comma after the issue number (which is in parentheses), before the page numbers. CBE uses a colon. **Replace the comma before the page numbers with a colon.**
5. APA includes the DOI (digital object identifier) if available, or "Retrieved [date] from [URL]" for online articles without DOIs. CBE does not include either. **Remove the DOI or "Retrieved" statement, if present.**