The very short guide to typesetting with \LaTeX

What's this all about? What's \LaTeX?
\LaTeX{} is a document preparation system which uses the \TeX{} typesetting program. It enables you to produce publication-quality documents with great accuracy and consistency. \LaTeX{} works on any computer and produces industry-standard PDF. It is available both in free (open-source) and commercial implementations. \LaTeX{} can be used for any kind of document, but it is especially suited to those with complex structures, repetitive formatting, or notations with many subscripts or superscripts. For documents where technical stability, dimensional accuracy or a persistent and non-proportional file format are needed. Install the software from www.tug.org/texlive/ or buy a commercially-supported version from one of the vendors (see the list on p.3).

Creating and typesetting your document
1. Create your document using any suitable plain-text editor with \LaTeX{} controls, eg \TeX{}shop (Mac), \TeX{}Maker (Win), \TeX{}Live (Linux), Emacs (all), even vi!
2. Save the file with a name ending in .tex (never use spaces in filenames);
3. Use the \texttt{Build} or \texttt{Compile} toolbar button or menu item in your editor to typeset and display the document;
4. Make any changes needed in your original document and repeat step 3.

Syntax (how to type \LaTeX{} commands — these are the rules)
- All \LaTeX{} commands begin with a backslash.
- If a command needs text to work with, it goes in curly braces.
- If options are used, they go in square brackets before the curly braces.
- \texttt{spaces after commands without braces get suppressed.}
- \texttt{Curly braces are also used to restrict the scope of effects inside them.}

Footnotes: You do footnotes with \texttt{\footnote{like this}.} Endnotes too

3.5 Cross-references Use the command \texttt{\ref{...}} to refer to it. Make up the labels yourself.
\texttt{Example: \ref{sec:refbib} on p. \ref{sec:refb} on p.4.}

3.7 Citation and reference: Create your bibliographic database in \BibTeX{} format (Patawhak, 1988) using \texttt{biblatex} or similar. Each entry must have a unique label (here \texttt{fi}).

\texttt{\usepackage[style=apa]{biblatex}}
\texttt{\addbibresource{myrefs.bib}}

To cite, use \texttt{\cite{...} (or \texttt{\cite{...}})} with the relevant label:
\texttt{Example: \cite{fi} Flynn (2016).}

4 Back matter
For an index, use the \texttt{\maketitle} package and the \texttt{\index} command with the \texttt{\printindex} command and the \texttt{\skiplines} command at the end of the document.

References
Streeten, I. (1996). Introduction to \LaTeX{} and \LaTeX{} 2e. London: \LaTeX{} Society.

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For reasons of space this guide does not cover further details of \LaTeX{} typesetting.
3 Body matter

Leave a blank line between paragraphs as you type; this signals a new paragraph. Spacing is controlled by the document class and packages you use. For an unindented, line-spaced style, use the \parindent paragraph command.

3.1 Sectioning: Sections get numbered automatically in bold type, and get included in the Table of Contents (if you use it). Numbering can be turned off selectively. Section heading layout can be modified with the sectsty, titlesize, and other packages.

(Preamble, titleing, and abstract as above)

\tableofcontents
\section{Chapter (heading of a chapter)}
\subsection{Subchapter (heading of a section)}
\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{example-image-a}
\caption{Example image}
\end{figure}
\end{document}

3.2 Lists: There are three types of list: itemized (bulleted), enumerated (numbered or lettered), and descriptive (topic-and-explanation format). Like document, these are all environments, using \begin{...} and \end{...}.

3.3 Tables and figures: These environments float (to fit available space). They have \caption and \label commands.

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Supplement} & \textbf{Growth rate} & \textbf{Water intake} \\
\hline
Control & 240 & 800 \\
Guanabana & 420 & 570 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Mean growth rate and intake of supplement, milk, and water for 4 days after Sharon J. (unedited)}
\end{table}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{example-image-b}
\caption{Swiss and Dutch Mennonite migrations of the 1700s and 1800s}
\end{figure}

Figure 1: Swiss and Dutch Mennonite migrations of the 1700s and 1800s.