

The Research Paper: MLA Style

Examples for the List of “Works Cited” and In-text Citation Based on the 2009 *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*

The list called **Works Cited** is a type of **Bibliography**, that is, the alphabetical list of all sources you consulted to write your paper. Brief **Parenthetical Citations** within your text, also called **In-text citations**, are usually preferred instead of **Footnotes** or **Endnotes**. All references must be documented with **citations** to give credit when you quote from any source. These citations are also required whenever you present ideas or facts from other sources in your own words (paraphrasing).

What Style to Use?

The examples on this sheet follow the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Ref LB 2369 .G53 2009). Your instructor may ask you to use another style of documentation, for example the A.P.A. or Chicago style.

The Layout

The **Works Cited** list is alphabetized by authors’ last names, with anonymous works arranged by the first significant word in their titles. Lines after the first line in each entry are indented by ½”, and the entire list is double-spaced throughout. Also pay attention to punctuation.

Parenthetical Documentation in the text is the use of abbreviated citations (in parentheses within your text) whenever you borrow (paraphrase or quote) material from another source. These parenthetical citations are usually only authors’ last names and page references, and these link the reader to your alphabetical “List of Works Cited.” This method of citing sources is simpler and generally preferred to using endnotes or footnotes.

Elements Included in Resource Citations – General Format:(Include what is available in this order.)

1. Author/Editor/Compiler’s Last Name, First Name. Add Ed. or Comp., if applicable (Editor or Compiler). Comma after last name, period after complete name.
2. Title and Subtitle of Short Work (e.g. article or story) in quotation marks. Capitalize all significant words. Unless other closing punctuation, include a period before the closing quotation marks.
3. Title and Subtitle of Complete Work (e.g. book, periodical or Web site) italicized. Capitalize all significant words.
4. Volume and Issue numbers of periodical, if applicable. A period should separate these numbers. (ex: 121.1)
5. Publication information for books. (Location and publisher if available; colon separating them.
Ex: Cambridge: Harvard UP)
6. For Web site, publisher or sponsor of the site, if available. (Ex: university, government agency)
7. Date of publication. (or n.d. for “no date”) For journal articles this should be year only and in parentheses.
8. Pages or paragraphs of source, if numbered.
9. Name of article database, if applicable. Italicized.
10. For **all** resources, include the medium or format of the resource. (Ex: Web, Print)
11. For online resources, date of access in this order: day Month year. (Ex: 5 June 2008.)
12. Electronic address, in angle brackets < >, if your professor wants you to add the URL. If the URL is very long, list just the basic part for the site’s home page.

Examples : List of Works Cited & Parenthetical Citation

Book – one author

Bell, Canny. *Tender is the Knight*. New Orleans: Cookbooks Galore, 2005. Print.

Example of in-text citation: “. . . my secret is fresh ingredients” (Bell 81).

Book – online

Fukari, Hisoshi. *Race in the Jury Box*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2003. *DSpace at SUNY*. The State University of New York. Web. 26 Feb. 2005. <<http://hdl.handle.net/1951/1992>>.

Example of in-text citation: “Another model . . . is Hennepin County” (Fukari 69).

Book – two to three authors

Moore, Otto C., and Sara Stuck. *Overcoming Xenophobia*. Cliff Edge, NJ: World Images, 1999. Print.

Example of in-text citation: Moore and Stuck make great claims for their results (27-28).

Book – four or more authors

Hardee, Tom, et al. *Judy Obscure: Dark Devon*. London: Penguin, 1936. Print.

Example of in-text citation: “. . . light at the end of the tunnel?” (Hardee et al. 380).

Book – editor as author (online)

Benson, Sonia G., Nancy Matuszak, and Meghan Appel O'Meara, eds. *History Behind the Headlines: The Origins of Conflicts Worldwide*. Detroit: Gale, 2002. Web. 25 Nov. 2007.

Example of in-text citation: (Benson, Matuszak, and O'Meara 143).

Book – multi-volume work

Know, Shirley. *Rome, Ants & Other Tales*. Ed. Lucy Furr. 3 vols. Oxford: Clairvoyant Press, 1934-36. Print.

Example of in-text citation: (Know 2: 450).

Note: the volume number (2) is followed by the page (450).

Book – chapter or essay in a collection, with an editor and/or translator

Eishaus, Solveig. “Weather as Character.” *The Russian Novel*. Ed. and trans. Warren Piece. Oslo: Oslo U.P., 1996. 17-35. Print.

Example of in-text citation: (Eishaus 31).

Encyclopedia – signed article

Record, Mark. “Automation: Libraries.” *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 12th ed. 1994. Print.

Example of in-text citation: (Record) Note: No page is needed, because articles are alphabetical

Encyclopedia – unsigned article

“Sitting Bull.” *Encyclopedia Americana*. 2000 ed. Print.

Example of in-text citation: (“Sitting Bull”).

Encyclopedia Article Online – signed:

Medoff, Joslyn. “Maxine Hong Kingston”. *Modern American Writers*. New York: Scribners Sons, 1991. 251-59. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 10 April 2005.

Example of in-text citation: Medoff declared her a “living treasure” (251).

Dictionary

“Plagiarism.” Def. 2. *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

Example of in-text citation: Plagiarism means . . . (“Plagiarism”).

Journal Article

Dearborn, Shirley. “Family Planning: A Case Study.” *Journal of Family Finance* 33.4 (1999): 114-120. Print.

Example of in-text citation: (Dearborn).

Note: page number not needed in the text for a one page source. The vol. 33 is followed by issue no. 4.

Article from Online Journal provided through a subscription service

Charaton, Fiona. “Doctors and Drug Companies under fire in U.S.” *British Medical Journal* 307.21 (1991): 253-267. *InfoTracOneFile*. Web. 5 Feb. 2005.

Example of in-text citation: The doctors group concluded that... (Charaton)

Magazine Article – unsigned

“Laughter and Stress.” *Time* 26 Sept. 2001: 87-91. Print.

Example of in-text citation: According to medical experts . . . (“Laughter”).

Article from Online Magazine from a Library Database

Hatch, David. “Drug Company Ethics.” *Congressional Quarterly*. 13. 22 (2003). *The CQ Researcher*. Web. 2 May 2005.

Example of in-text citation: Ethical behavior requires . . . (Hatch).

Newspaper article – unsigned

“Record Snow Stops Parade Cold in Oswego.” *New York Times* 5 July 1945, late ed.: sec. 4: 12+. Print.

Note: If an article is not printed in consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign.

Example of in-text citation: (“Record Snow” 20).

Full text newspaper article accessed in online database

Maynard, Micheline. “Lake Ontario Ferry Ceases Service.” *New York Times* 19 Sept. 2004, late ed.: East Coast: 5.3. *Proquest National Newspapers*. Web. 23 Mar. 2005.

Example of in-text citation: (Maynard).

Article/essay reprinted in a collection

Oates, Joyce Carol. “The Death Throes of Romanticism.” *Southern Review* 9.3 (1973): 518-520. Rpt. in *Contemporary Poetry in America*, Ed. Robert Boyers. New York: Schocken Books, 1974. 153-54. Print.

Example of in-text citation: A standard definition of Romanticism is . . . (Oates).

Government publication: no individual author

United States. Cong. Senate. Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments on the Judiciary. *Hearings on the “Equal Rights Amendment.”* 91st Cong., 2nd sess. S. Res. 61. Washington: GPO, 1970. Print.

Example of in-text citation: “. . . testimony at hearings” (United States 157-173).

Electronic text of print source posted on a scholarly website

Woolf, Virginia. Rev. of *The Worlds and I*, by Ella Wheeler. *The Atheneum* 19 Sept. 1919.

“Wilcoxian’ by Virginia Woolf.” *A Celebration of Women Writers*. Ed. Mary Mark Ockerbloom.

Carnegie Mellon U. Web. 24 Oct. 1998. <<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/People/mmbt/women.VW-Wilcox.hym1>>.

Example of in-text citation: Woolf’s views are still fresh after all of this time.

Note: Since this whole work is being cited, it is best to include the author’s name in the text.

Professional Web Site

“Online Information: Fact or Fiction?” *Learn the Net*. Learn the Net, n.d. Web. 14 Oct. 2004.

<<http://www.learnthenet.com/english/index.html>>.

Example of in-text citation: “. . . Pierre Salinger . . . obtained information from a posting on an Internet Newsgroup . . . , accepting gossip as truth” (“Online Information”).

Personal e-mail

Forester, Amber. “Minority Women in Corporate Management.” E-mail to the author. 13 Jan. 2005. E-mail.

Example of in-text citation: (Forester).

Listserv source

Countant, A. “Published Budget Data.” Collib Listserv. 7 Mar. 1998. Listserv message. 1 Apr. 2005.

Note: “Title” is taken from the posted subject line. First date is day of posting. Last date is day of your access.

Example of in-text citation: : “serious erosion of library budgets” (Countant).