



MLA STYLE PRINT SOURCES

Begley Library and Learning Center

MLA is a style of documentation recommended by the Modern Language Association. It is a two part method. The first part of the system is the *in-text citation*. It gives credit to the author of information you use in your research paper. The second part is the *Works Cited page*, a complete list of sources cited in your paper.

PART I – IN-TEXT CITATIONS

MLA 6.1

Whenever you refer to information in your paper (text) you must give credit to the author of that information. It does not matter if you reword the information; you must still give credit because it is not your research and/or your idea. If you don't give credit, you have plagiarized. This is not only unethical, but also against the law. So, what is a citation? It is a set of parentheses that appears in your paper next to the information you have taken from one of your sources. Inside the citation, write the author's last name and the page on which you found the information. Occasionally, other situations arise and you may have to vary the information in the citation. Examples of the five most common citations are as follows:

- If the information in you paper is from a traditional print source, write the author's last name and the page number in the citation. Do not separate with a comma. Also, put the period on the outside of the citation.
Ex. Country woodcraft had its origins in the tradition of the peasant woodworker who had to provide for almost all of his wood product needs (Langsner 3).
- If the author's name is written in the sentence, then you only need to write the page where you found the information in the citation.
Ex. Gregory Graham writes that the hand hacksaw is the most commonly used tool to cut metal (32).
- If you are using more than one book written by the same author, you must include a short title of the book in addition to the last name and page number.
Ex. The idea for the plot in this novel was derived from a picture illustrating a play by Gilbert and Sullivan (Asimov, *Foundation and the Empire* 9).
- If the source your information comes from doesn't have an author, which happens most often when your source is a newspaper or magazine article, you need to write a shortened form of the title in the citation in place of the author's name.

Ex. The article details legislation that would require small contracting firms to implement new safety regulations ("A New Safety Legislation" 1).

- Web sources often do not have page numbers. Omit the page number when this is the case. Note, even though the printer will show a page number, it should not be used because different printers format pages differently. Information on page 1 from one printer may be on page 2 on another printer. An exception to this is with web sources that are in PDF files. Since these page numbers are stable they should be included in the in-text citation.

PART II - WORKS CITED PAGE

Similar to a bibliography, the Works Cited page is an alphabetical list of all sources used in your paper. Alphabetize by the author's last name or the first word in the title if there is no author.

Title the page Works Cited. Center it at the top of the page.

- **Double space all entries and use a hanging indent (5 spaces). This handout is single spaced to save paper.**
- Arrange sources in alphabetical order by the author's last name. If no author is listed, use the first word of the title. If the first word is a, an, or the, alphabetize by the second word.

A book by one author (MLA 5.5.2)

Zagorin, Perez. *The Court and the Country: The Beginnings of the English Revolution*. New York: Atheneum, 1970. Print.

A book by two or three authors (MLA 5.5.4)

Feldman, Burton, and Robert D. Richardson. *The Rise of Modern Mythology*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1972. Print.

NOTE: When two or more authors are listed, only the first name appears in reverse order. The others are written in normal order.

A book by more than three authors (MLA 5.5.4)

Moore, Mark H., et al. *Dangerous Offenders: The Elusive Target of Justice*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1984. Print.

Two or more books by the same authors (MLA 5.3.4)

Durant, Will, and Ariel Durant. *The Age of Voltaire*. New York: Simon, 1965.

- - -. *A Dual Autobiography*. New York: Simon, 1977. Print.

NOTE: To cite two or more books by the same authors, give the names in the first entry only. Thereafter, in place of the names, type three hyphens, followed by a period and the title. The three hyphens stand for exactly the same names as in the preceding entry.

A book by a corporate author (MLA 5.5.4)

National Research Council. *China and Global Change: Opportunities for Collaboration*.

Washington: Natl. Acad., 1992. Print.

NOTE: A corporate author may be a commission, an association, a committee, or any other group whose individual members are not identified on the title page. Cite the book by the corporate author, even if the corporate author is the publisher.

An edited book (MLA 5.53 & 5.56)

Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick*. Ed. Charles Fiedelson, Jr. Indianapolis: Bobbs, 1964. Print.

Edel, Leon, ed. *The Future of the Novel: Essays on the Art of Fiction*. By Henry James.
New York: Vintage, 1956. Print.

NOTE: If you refer mostly to the work of the editor, put his or her name *before* the title .

Edition of a book other than the first edition (MLA 5.5.13)

Auletta, Ken. *The Underclass*. 2nd ed. Woodstock: Overlook, 2000. Print.

Fuer, Jane. *The Hollywood Musical*. 2nd ed. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1993. Print.

An encyclopedia article or reference book signed or unsigned (MLA 5.5.7)

"Liberty, Statue of." *Encyclopaedia Britannica: Macropaedia*. 1985 ed. Print.

Grimstead, David. "Fuller, Margaret Sarah." *Encyclopedia of American Biography*. Ed.

John A. Garraty. New York: Harper, 1974. Print.

NOTE: You do not need to include publication information for well-known reference books. For lesser-known books, present full publication information.

A short story, poem, or essay in an anthology (MLA 5.5.6)

Desai, Anita. "Scholar and Gypsy." *The Oxford Book of Travel Stories*. Ed. Patricia Craig.
Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996. 251-273. Print.

An article in a journal paginated by volume (MLA 5.4.2)

Ryan, Katy. "Revolutionary Suicide in Toni Morrison's Fiction." *African American Review* 34.3
(2000): 389-412. Print.

An article in a journal paginated by issue (MLA 5.4.3 & 5.4.2)

Wood, Michael. "Broken Dates: Fiction and the Century." *Kenyon Review* 22.3 (2000): 50-64.
Print.

An article in a magazine – issued monthly or weekly (MLA 5.4.6)

Fay, J. Michael. "Land of the Surfing Hippos." *National Geographic* Aug. 2004: 100+. Print.

Lord, Lewis. "There's Something about Mary Todd." *US News and World Report* 19 Feb. 2001: 53. Print.

Article in a daily newspaper - signed or unsigned (MLA 5.4.5)

Ostrowidzki, Vie. "GOP Finds Health Plan Mission a Headache." *Times Union* (Albany, NY) 28 June 1993: A1. Print.

"French Train Passes Through the English Channel Tunnel." *New York Times* 21 June 1993: A9. Print.

Hall, Trish. "IQ Scores Are Up, and Psychologists Wonder Why." *New York Times* 24 Feb. 1998, late ed.: F1+. Print.

NOTE: Write the name of the city only if the name does not appear in the title of the newspaper.

A pamphlet (MLA 5.5.19)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Dept. of Jury Commissioner. *A Few Facts about Jury Duty*. Boston: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 2004. Print.

NOTE: Treat a pamphlet as you would a book.

A government publication (MLA 5.5.20)

United States. Dept. of Labor. *America's Dynamic Workforce*. Washington: US Dept. of Labor, 2004. Print.

NOTE: If there is an author, list that first. If not, treat the government agency as the author and include any publishing information available.

A personal interview (MLA 5.7.7)

Bush, George W. Personal interview. 10 Dec. 2007.

Dettbam, Linda. Telephone interview. 5 Nov. 2007.

A film or video (MLA 5.7.3)

It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel

Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. RKO, 1946. DVD.

The Hours. Dir. Stephen Daldry. Perf. Meryl Streep, Julianne Moore, and Nicole Kidman. Paramount, 2002. Film.

NOTE: Begin with the title, italicized. Cite the director (Dir.) and the lead actors (Perf.) or narrator (Narr.); the distributor and the year of the film's release. You may include other data that seems pertinent – such as the names of the writers, performers, and producer – between the title and the distributor.

EXAMPLE OF WORKS CITED PAGE

Double Space Citations

Works Cited

- Central Intelligence Agency. *The World Fact Book*. 15 Nov. 2007. 28 Nov. 2007. Print.
- Dettbarn, Linda. Telephone interview. 5 Nov. 2008. Print.
- Durant, Will, and Ariel Durant. *The Age of Voltaire*. New York: Simon, 1965. Print.
- - -. *A Dual Autobiography*. New York: Simon, 1977. Print.
- "Detroit's Renaissance Man." *Newsweek* 28 June 1993: 42. Print.
- Edel, Leon, ed. *The Future of the Novel: Essays on the Art of Fiction*. By Henry James.
New York: Vintage, 1956. Print.
- Grimstead, David. "Fuller, Margaret Sarah." *Encyclopedia of American Biography*. Ed.
John A. Garraty. New York: Harper, 1974. Print.
- Kafka, Franz. "The Metamorphosis." *An Introduction to Literature*. Eds. Sylvan Barnet, Morton
Berman, and William Burto. 10th ed. New York: Harper Collins College Publishers, 1993. 196-
232. Print.
- "Liberty, Statue of." *Encyclopaedia Britannica: Macropaedia*. 1985 ed. Print.
- Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick*. Ed. Charles Fiedelson, Jr. Indianapolis: Bobbs, 1964. Print.
- National Research Council. *China and Global Change: Opportunities for Collaboration*. Washington:
Natl. Acad., 1992. Print.
- Sider, Ronald J. "Redeeming the Environmentalists." *Christianity Today* 21 June 1993: 26+. Print.
- Spanoudis, Steve, Bob Blair, and Nelson Miller. *Poets' Corner*. 2 Feb. 1998. 4 Feb. 1998. Print.
- United States. Dept. of State. *International Control of Atomic Energy: Growth of a Policy*. Washington:
GPO, 1946. Print.

Created by Learning Center (February 2009; rev. July 2009)