MLA Style


Information should be included for these elements, when available, in the following order:

### Elements

1. Author.
2. Title of source.
3. Title of container.
4. Other contributors.
5. Version.
6. Number.
7. Publisher.
8. Publication date.
9. Location.

### Tips

- Include as many elements as are available.
- Elements 3-9 may be repeated if your source is part of a larger source or “container.”
- Use quotation marks for titles of sources contained in larger sources (title of essay, short story, poem, or article).
- Use italics for titles of larger sources (books, periodical titles, websites, etc.)
- Include a DOI (digital object identifier) or permalink for journal articles when available.
- Use a shortened version of the database URL if lacking a DOI or permalink.
- Remove http:// and https:// from URLs in citations.
- Remove any hyperlinks.
- When no date is given for a website, end your citation with an access date in the format: Accessed Day Month Year.

### Book

Lamb, Robert P. *The Hemingway Short Story: A Study in Craft for Writers and Readers*.


### Book with two authors


### Book with three or more authors

Book with a corporate author that is also the publisher


Essay from an Anthology


eBook


Article from a Popular Magazine


Article from a Popular Magazine from a Library Database (Permalink available)


Article from a Scholarly Journal from a Library Database (DOI available)

Article from a Scholarly Journal from a Library Database (Permalink available)

Newspaper article

Newspaper Editorial from a Library Database (Permalink available)

Web Page


Video

Miss Representation. Written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, Kanopy, 2011, sunybroome.kanopystreaming.com/video/miss-representation-0.
In-Text Citations

A writer must document all information and ideas taken from others, whether quoting that source or putting it in your own words. To do this, you can use in-text citations which point your reader to the exact source on your Works Cited list, as well as the location within that source. For the following example, this usually means citing the author and page (Tan 40).

Example


If the author’s name is included in a signal phrase, you only need to cite the page number in parentheses: Tan describes her mother’s English as “broken” or “fractured” (40).

For long quotations (more than four typed lines), indent half an inch from the left margin, double space the lines, do not use quotation marks, and cite as above, placing the parentheses after the final punctuation.

Children of immigrants can have mixed feelings about their parents’ difficulties with the English language:

Lately, I have been giving more thought to the kind of English my mother speaks. Like others, I have described it to people as “broken” or “fractured” English. But I wince when I say that. It has always bothered me that I can think of no way to describe it other than “broken,” as if it were damaged and needed to be fixed, as if it lacked a certain wholeness and soundness. (Tan 40)

More Examples

For works with two authors, include both names (Cristia and Seidl 13-14).

For works with more than two authors, cite the first author et al. (Feltus et al. 5).

For a source with no author, give a shortened version of the title (“Will” A30).

For a source with no pagination, cite the author(s) or shortened title (“New Data”).
Links to Other Resources

MLA Style Center
  • Quick guide to creating your Works Cited page
  • Practice Template
  • Formatting your paper includes first page and headers
  • Sample papers
  • Avoiding plagiarism

Purdue OWL
EasyBib
SUNY Broome Writing Center

Works Cited  see next page for example

K. Pitcher 12/19/2016; rev. 2/27/2020
Works Cited


