

MLA STYLE GUIDE

Format and Documentation

This handout serves as a condensed version to an expanded [MLA Guide](#) that can be found on the Writing Center website under “Instructional Handouts.” Below are examples of how to cite sources in the text and document them on the Works Cited page.

IN-TEXT CITATION

Documentation is the method of giving credit to the creator of a source. To correspond with a Works Cited page, shortened **in-text** citations (also called **parenthetical citations**) will be made when using borrowed information in the text. This citation will directly refer the reader to the entries on the Works Cited page. **All ideas that are not your own or is not considered common knowledge should be cited.** [What is Common Knowledge?](#)

Introducing Source: According to Agatha Christie, “Eclairs are very difficult things to make” (52).

Author and page number: A quote from the book states, “Well, you have to get a particular kind of flour” (Christie 52).

No page number: The author famously declares, “Be yourself; everyone else is already taken” (Wilde).

No author or page number: In fact, this deity “is known as the goddess of the hunt” (“Artemis”).

Note: Use the title name. Websites do not use page numbers in the in-text citation.

THE WORKS CITED PAGE

In order to make citing easier, below are five common examples of sources. (Double Spaced)

1. Book (Single Author)

Christie, Agatha. *Postern of Fate*. Dodd, Mead & Company, 1973.

2. Anthology (Compilation/Textbook)

Bordo, Susan. “The Globalization of Eating Disorders” *The McGraw-Hill Reader: Issues across the Disciplines*, authored by Gilbert H. Muller, edited by Nancy Huebner, 12th ed., customized for Oklahoma City Community College, McGraw-Hill Education, 2014, pp. 639-642.

3. Website (Electronic Source)

Fountain, Henry. “Gold vs. Salmon: Battle Over Alaskan Mine.” *New York Times*, photographed by Acacia Johnson, 24 July 2020, www.nytimes.com/2020/07/24/climate/pebble-mine-alaska-environment.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage.

4. Organization, Agency, Institution, or Group

“Artemis.” *Greek Gods and Goddesses*, 2020, www.greekgodsandgoddesses.net/goddesses/artemis/. Accessed 24 July 2020.

5. Database (Digital Libraries and Databases)

Gillespie, Nick. “David Bowie Was a Time Traveler from Our Hyper-Personalized Future.” *Reason*, vol. 47, no. 11, Apr. 2016, p. 48. *EBSCOhost*, web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail?vid=8&sid=44ca6c2a-72cc-4208-b5a3-8a31df2b7603%40sessionmgr4006&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWWhvc3QtbG12ZQ%3d%3d#AN=113225980&db=f5h.

Template

All sources in MLA are cited the same. Use this template as a guide for plotting source information.

1. Author(s).	
2. "Title of Work."	
Container 1	
3. <i>Title of Container.</i>	
4. Other Contributors,	
5. Version,	
6. Number,	
7. Publisher,	
8. Publication Date,	
9. Location.	

Container 2

3. <i>Title of Container,</i>	
4. Other Contributors,	
5. Version,	
6. Number,	
7. Publisher,	
8. Publication Date,	
9. Location.	