



A Quick-Guide for Citation: MLA

This quick-guide provides selected examples of frequently used citation formats. For additional examples, consult the complete style manual, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition*, on reserve at the Drinko circulation desk.

Parenthetical documentation

MLA style uses parenthetical documentation to cite quotations or paraphrases from a cited work. For example,

The poem is often interpreted as “a profound testament to the loss of her longtime companion” (Workman 134-36).

Workman argues that the poem is primarily a statement of loss (134-36).

Each parenthetical reference corresponds to an entry in the **Works Cited** page at the end of the paper where a reader can locate full bibliographic information. For detailed discussion of parenthetical documentation see sections 6.1-6.5 in the *MLA Handbook*.

Works cited references are double-spaced with a hanging indent and are arranged alphabetically by the first content word.

1. Book with One Author:

Sultan, Nancy. *Exile and the Poetics of Loss in Greek Tradition*. Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield, 1999. Print.

2. Book with more than one author:

McCoy, Kathleen, and Judith Harlan. *English Literature from 1785*. New York: Harper Collins, 1992. Print.

3. Essay or Chapter from a Book:

MacLeod, Norman. “‘This familiar regressive series’: Aspects of Style in the Novels of Kingsley Amis.” *Edinburgh Studies in English and Scots*. Ed. A. J. Aitken, Angus McIntosh, and Herman Palsson. London: Longman, 1971. 121 – 43. Print.



4. Newspaper Article:

Schmid, Randolph E. "Sea Breeze May Help Clean Air: Salt Brings Rain That Washes Out Pollution." *Lexington Herald-Leader* 16 Aug. 2002, local ed.: C2+. Print.

5. Magazine Article:

Byrne, Gerry. "Road Rage." *New Scientist* 9 Dec. 2000: 38-41. Print.

6. Scholarly Journal Article (with continuous pagination):

Hufnagel, Jill. "Atwood's Variation on the Word Sleep." *Explicator* 54 (1996): 188-91. Print.

7. Online Article (from a library database): Cite the original source; then add database information.

Hufnagel, Jill. "Atwood's Variation on the Word Sleep." *Explicator* 54 (1996): 188-91.

Academic Search Premier. Web. 23 May 2004.

8. Article from a Web Site

Bolden, Tonya. "Olivia Ward Bush." *African American Women Writers of the 19th Century*.

2000.* The New York Public Library Digital Collections. Web. 19 August 2002.

<http://digital.nypl.org/schomburg/writers_aa19/biographies.html>.**

*Note: If the copyright or publication date are not present, use n.d. for no date.

**Note: MLA no longer requires URLs unless the source is difficult to locate without it.

9. Film or Video Recording:

The Great Gatsby. Dir. Jack Clayton. Perf. Robert Redford and Mia Farrow. Paramount, 1995.

Film.

10. Book Review:

Beckwith, Susan Lynne. Rev. of *A Geography of Victorian Gothic Fiction: Mapping History's*

Nightmares, by Robert Mighall. *Criticism* 43 (2001): 360-5. Print.