MLA Style

No matter where your information comes from, you always need to cite your sources. The eighth edition of the MLA Handbook asks that information be cited in two different ways -- in parenthetical citation within the text of the paper and in a Works Cited page at the paper’s conclusion.

See also:


There are two important rules to keep in mind when utilizing MLA style:

1. Each entry on the Works Cited page should correspond to at least one parenthetical, or in-text, citation.
2. Parenthetical citations should be included for clarity and accuracy.

Parenthetical (In-text) Citations

Include the author’s last name, if known, or the first key word of the title of the work, followed by a page number, if known.

(Smith 10) (Smith) ("Weather" 10)

Works Cited

Book with One Author or Editor

last name, first name title pub company, pub date.

Book with Multiple Authors or Editors

last name, first name and first name last name. title pub company, pub date.

Books with more than four or more authors/editors should use the first person’s name followed by the phrase “et al.”

Chapter from a Book or Anthology

chapter author last name, first name. “chapter title.” book title, editor name, pub company, pub date, pages.
A Multi-Volume Work

last name, first name. title. ed., pub company, pub date. # volumes.

Part of a Multi-Volume Work

last name, first name, and first name last name. title of section. pub date.

Magazine/Newspaper Article

last name, first name. "article title." newspaper title, pub date, page number.

Encyclopedia Entry of Article in a Reference Book with Author

entry author last, first name. "entry title." book title, pub company, pub date.

Encyclopedia Entry of Article in a Reference Book without an Author

"entry title." book title, pub company, pub date.

Book Review

review author last name, first name. Review of... book/movie/album, by book/movie/album author.

Video

video title. director, pubs actor names, pub company, pub date.

YouTube Video

"video title." Youtube, handle of uploader, date of upload.
“Meet the Thirteenth Doctor - Doctor Who.” YouTube, uploaded by Doctor Who, 16 July 2017,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_-bSdWEYK8.
Personal Interview

Interviewee last name, first name. date of interview.
Pei, I. M. Personal interview. 22 July 1993.

Government Document

Country of origin, author.

Website

last name, first name. website title, pub date.

An access date is optional. It is particularly useful if there is no publication date.

Web page (portion of website)

last name, first name. “webpage title.” website title, pub date.

Ebook

last name, first name, and first name last name. title.

Journal Article

last name, first name. “article title.” journal title, volume #, issue #, pub date, pages, DOI.

Journal Article from Database

last name, first name. “article title.” journal title, volume #, issue #, pub date, pages, Database name, permanent URL.