

MLA Documentation

In-Text Citation and Works Cited

In-Text Citations

- When implementing information from an outside source into your writing, you must give credit to the author of the information.
 - This is accomplished through the use of an in-text citation.
 - In-text citations provide a reference to the source used.
 - The reader can then access all information from that source on the Works Cited page at the end of the essay.

In-Text Citations

- In-text citations are made with a combination of signal phrases and parenthetical references
- **Signal phrase:** indicates something taken from a source is to be used (quotation, summary, paraphrase, fact)
 - usually includes the author's name
- **Parenthetical Reference:** comes directly following the cited material
 - usually includes a page number

In-Text Citations

- **Example:** One driver, Peter Cohen, says that after he was rear-ended, the guilty party emerged from his vehicle still talking on the phone (127).
- **NOTE:** If the cited material runs more than one page, give the range of pages (235-36) (399-400)

Kinds of In-Text Citations

- **Author named in parentheses:**

Example: Most states do not keep adequate records on the number of times cell phones are in a factor in accidents; as of December 2000, only ten states were trying to keep such records (Sundeen 2).

Kinds of In-Text Citations

- **Author unknown:** Either use the complete title in a signal phrase or use a short form of the title in parentheses. Book Titles “Titles of Articles and Other Short Works”
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Example: As of 2001, at least three hundred towns and municipalities had considered legislation regulating use of cell phones while driving (“Lawmakers” 2).

NOTE: Before assuming a website has no author, make sure to look around. Sometimes the author is difficult to find.

--If a source has no author and is sponsored by an organization or government agency, use that as the author.

Kinds of In-Text Citations

- **Page number unknown:** You may omit the page number if the source lacks page numbers (as many Web sources do). Treat web sources as unpaginated unless it is in a PDF file.

Example: The California Highway Patrol opposes restriction on the use of phones while driving, claiming that distracted driver can already be prosecuted (Jacobs).

Kinds of In-Text Citations

- **One page source:** supply the page number so as to not create confusion with the citation.

Example: Milo Ippolito reports that the driver who struck and killed a two-year-old while using her cell phone got off with a light sentence even though she left the scene of the accident and failed to call 911 for help (J1). In this and in similar cases, traffic offenders distracted by cell phones have not been sufficiently punished under current laws.

NOTE: When providing an in text citation, the period of the sentence is placed after the closing parentheses: **(Jacobs 45)**.

Works Cited

- The in-text citations will lead the reader to the works cited page that should be provided at the end of the essay.
- A works cited page provides a list of all sources utilized **IN** the essay.
 - Therefore, if you did not use a source in the essay, it should **NOT** be included on the works cited page.

Works Cited

- For your Works Cited page:
 - **Center the title** “Works Cited” for your page
 - Arrange the items on your reference list **alphabetically** by **author**, interfiling books, articles, etc.
 - **Double space all** lines.
 - Indent the second and following lines 5 spaces (or one half inch). This is called a **hanging indent**.
 - If no author is given, start with the title.
 - **Invert and Abbreviate** the dates: Abbreviate the names of all months except May, June, and July. (18 Aug. 1982)

Book with single author

Author's last, first name. Title of Book. Place of publication: Publisher, year of publication.

Jung, Carl G. Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Sky. New York: Harcourt, 1969.

Note: When there is more than one author, use the normal name order for all authors except the first.

Frew, Robert, Richard Guches, and Robert Mehaffy.
Survival: A Sequential Program for College Writing. 5th ed. Palo Alto: Peek, 1995.

Chapter, Story, or Essay in a book

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article."
Title of Book. Editor's first and last name.
Edition. City of publication: Publisher, year of
publication. Page numbers.

**Faulkner, William. "A Rose for Emily."
Literature: An Introduction to Fiction,
Poetry, and Drama. Ed. X.J. Kennedy and
Dana Gioia. 8th ed. New York: Longman,
2002. 28-35.**

Article in a reference book

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article." Title of Reference Book. Edition or year of publication followed by the abbreviation *ed.*

Hall, Calvin S. "Dreams." Encyclopedia Americana. 1985 ed.

Note: When no author is listed, begin the entry with the title of the article, and use the title in the parenthetical citation as well so that it will match the works cited entry.

"Freud, Sigmund." Encyclopedia Britannica. 1991 ed.

Article in a magazine

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article." Title of Magazine date: page numbers.

Harary, K. "Language of the Night." Omni Sept. 1993: 46-7+.

Note: A plus (+) sign after the page number(s) indicates that the article continues on non-consecutive pages. When citing a weekly magazine, include the day in the date.

Smith, John K. "Food for Thought." Time 24 Aug. 2001: 46.

Article in a newspaper

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article."
Title of Newspaper date: section and page.

**Doe, John C. "Hot Fiction Blazes." Davis
Enterprise 9 Aug. 1949: A5.**

Interview

Last name, first name (of interviewee). Personal or Telephone interview. Date of interview.

Ramirez, Kevin. Personal interview. 10 Sept. 1994.

Lecture

Speaker's last name, first name. "Title" or description.
Sponsoring Organization, Location. Date.

**DeFoe, Daniel. Class Lecture. Sierra College,
Rocklin. 5 Nov. 2001.**

Internet Sources

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Document."
Title of Site. Copyright date or last update. Name of
organization. Date of access <internet address>.

Note: When citing an entire Internet site, include as much of the
above information as is available.

Cosumnes River Preserve. 13 Sept. 2000. The Nature
Conservancy of California. 7 Nov. 2000
<<http://www.cosumnes.org>>.

Article in a Scholarly Journal

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article." Title of Journal
Volume.issue# (year): Page numbers.

Marshall, Brigitte. "Reexamining the Role of Adult Educators." The
CATESOL Journal 9.2 (1996): 127-132.