

MLA Citation Format (8th Edition, 2019 – IRSC Academic Support Center)

It is not necessary to differentiate between types of resources (book, DVD, Web page, etc.).

MLA In-Text Citations: Basic Formats

One Author	Czeisler reports, "Bright light produces a clear resetting of the subject's circadian rhythms, yet it is too early to know why this happens" (137).
	Czeisler reports that bright light affects one's "circadian rhythms" although the explanation is not yet known (137).
	In fact, Mapes believes that the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant happened because engineers ignored a series of warning signals (15).
	The accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant happened at 4:00 a.m., and the Chernobyl reactor exploded at 1:23 a.m. (Mapes 15).
Two Authors	Worchel and Shebilske report that a person's biological clock is internally set at twenty-four hours (125).
	A person's biological clock is internally set at twenty-four hours (Worchel and Shebilske 125).
Three or More Authors	Czeisler et al. find similar results in monkeys (155).
	Similar results have been found in monkeys (Czeisler et al. 155).
Unknown Author	The article "Are You a Day or Night Person?" states that the pineal gland, which releases melatonin at night, regulates the biological clock (14).
	<div>Or</div> The pineal gland, which regulates melatonin at night, regulates the biological clock ("Are You" 14).
Corporate Author	The National Institute of Mental Health is studying the effect that altering circadian rhythms has on the memory (91).
	<div>Or</div> Scientists are studying the effects that changing circadian rhythms may produce on the memory (Natl. Inst. of Mental Health 91).
Anthology or a Collection	The black box in "The Lottery" symbolizes the towns people's fear as evident in the words "the villagers kept their distance" and "there was hesitation" before two men volunteered to help steady the box (Jackson 572).
Indirect Sources	Jones claims that many dual enrollment students are "not as well educated as those who follow traditional college routes" (qtd. in Marion 293).
Electronic Sources	<i>Electronic resources should be cited in the same formats as those listed above. It is not necessary to include page numbers. However, consistent elements, such as chapters in a book, should be included in same format as page numbers. For example: (ch. 3).</i>

MLA Works Cited: Basic Formats

One Author	Harris, Larry. <i>Pancho Villa and the Columbus Raid</i> . Kessinger Publishing, 1999.
Two Authors	Harris, Malcolm, and Lucinda Landis. <i>The Complete Guide to English Tutoring</i> . Yount and Kingman, 2000.
Three or More Authors	Cook, Marilyn, et al. <i>Writing for College</i> . U of Florida P, 2004.
Anthology	Shakespeare, William. "Hamlet: Prince of Denmark." <i>Literature: Reading Fiction, Poetry, and Drama</i> , edited by Robert DiYanni, 6 th ed., McGraw Hill, 2008, pp. 1545-1648.
Web Site	Carman, Neil. "How to Grow Chipotle Peppers." <i>eHow</i> , www.ehow.com/how_10727_grow-chipotle-peppers.html. Accessed 6 June 2016. "Corticobasal Degeneration." <i>WebMD</i> , 30 Sept. 2016, www.webmd.com/brain/corticobasal-degeneration.
Online Database	Whitaker, Carolyn. "Love and Courtship in Victorian England." <i>Victorian Journal</i> , vol. 60, no. 1, 2015, pp. 133-46. <i>ProQuest</i> , doi:11.1117/S0118246X06005911. Accessed 27 June 2016.
YouTube	McQueen, Steve. "2008 Bullitt Mustang Review." <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by Matt Morris Classic Cars, 29 July 2017, www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Hbsj_QWaP8.
Twitter/Tweet	Note: Use Twitter handle in place of the author's name. Place the tweet in its entirety in quotations, inserting a period after the tweet within the quotations. Include the date and time of posting; separate the date and time with a comma and end with a period. Use date accessed if necessary. @persiankiwi. "We have report of large street battles in east & west of Tehran now - #Iraelection." <i>Twitter</i> , 23 June 2009, 11:15 a.m., twitter.com/persiankiwi/status/2298106072.
E-mail	Note: Give the author of the message, followed by the subject line in quotation marks. State to whom the message was sent with the phrase, "Received by" and the recipient's name. Include the date the message was sent. Use standard capitalization. Davis, Melissa. "Re: Student Council Meeting." Received by Josie Cates, 4 Sep. 2016.
On-line Dictionary	"Corticobasal Degeneration." <i>The American Heritage Stedman's Medical Dictionary</i> , Houghton Mifflin, 1995. <i>Dictionary.com</i> , www.dictionary.com/ browse/ Corticobasal Degeneration?s=t. Accessed 13 Dec. 2010.
E-book	Smicklas, Jamie. <i>Tactical Command Air Operations in Vietnam</i> . Princeton UP, 2010. <i>USAF Operations E-book</i> , hdl.handle.net/2025/heh.07588.0001.001.

Common MLA Issues

Two different sources within one sentence

It is generally better to begin a new sentence when referring to a new source.

Multiple citations within one paragraph

When you reference the same source more than once in the same paragraph, and no other source intervenes, you may give the in-text citation just once at the end of the paragraph. If, however, this technique creates any ambiguity about your reference, it is better to cite the source every time you reference it. (MLA 3.5, 124-126)

Missing citation information

If no author or editor information is available, start with title of work. Use an abbreviated version of title for in-text references and complete title in Works Cited (use format below)

Basic MLA Works Cited format for all resources. Not every resource will provide all of the information.

- Author and/or editor names (if available)
- Article name in quotation marks.
- Title of the website, project, or book in italics.
- Any version numbers available, including editions (ed.), revisions, posting dates, volumes (vol.), or issue numbers (no.).
- Publisher information, including the publisher name and publishing date.
- Take note of any page numbers (p. or pp.) or paragraph numbers (par.).
- Date you accessed the material (Date Accessed).
- For URL, use DOI or permalink (it is not necessary to use <https://> or <http://>).

Long Quotations (more than four typed lines) – (MLA 1.3.2, 76)

- *Use a colon to introduce the quotation unless the grammatical connection between your work and the quotation requires different punctuation or none at all.
- *Starting a new line, indent the entire quotation one half inch from the left margin.
- *Use the normal right margin and double space.
- *Do not put quotation marks around an indented quotation.
- *Place the citation in parentheses at the end of the quotation.

Example 1

Other studies have revealed similar results. For example, researcher Czeisler explains his findings:

People exposed to five hours of bright lights during the nighttime over a three-day period reset their internal clocks as much as twelve hours. The timing of the light could not be haphazard, however. The exposure had to be synchronized with particular phases of a person's circadian rhythm in order for it to be effective. (72)

Example 2

In *The Heart of the Matter*, Major Scobie realizes that his situation is hopeless, and he becomes overcome by feelings of regret, remorse, and depression. He has allowed his love for a young widow to lead to deceit, dishonor, and, indirectly, murder. He knows that he has betrayed his wife, his country, and worse, his Catholic religion. As he sees his world coming apart, Scobie sees only one route of escape: the unforgivable sin. (101)

MLA General Guidelines

- Always check with course instructor for exact requirements.
- Use 8 ½ x 11 inch white, standard typing paper.
- Double space the entire paper and use a standard black typeface (not script or italics).
- Except for page numbers, leave margins of one inch on all sides of paper. Let the right margin remain uneven. Do not justify.
- Create a header in the upper right-hand corner that includes your last name, followed by a space and a page number. Number all pages consecutively with Arabic numbers, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin.
- Do not underline your title, place it in quotation marks, or put it in all capital letters. (Italicize or place in quotation marks only those words that would normally be italicized or in quotation marks, e.g., the name of a book that you have included in your title.)
- FICTIONAL SAMPLE PAPER EXCERPT, MLA 8th EDITION CITATION AND FORMAT:

Andrews 1

Pat Andrews

Professor Manning

Introduction to Research 1201, Section A1

17 November 2012

Texting While Driving: A Deadly Dilemma

When Gary Golatas climbed into the passenger seat of Allyson P. Smitter's sports car on the morning of July 4, 2011, he had no idea that she would be taking him for his last ride. According to an article in the *Terlingua Daily Express*, Golatas, 17, and Smitter, 18, had planned a holiday excursion to festivities in nearby Appaloosa County. Six months later, it was no holiday when a Kiva County grand jury indicted Smitter for vehicular homicide (Buck A1).

Texting, statistics prove, is not only rising but creating problems on the nation's highways. In the United States, texting increased from 9.8 billion messages a month in January of 2009 to 99.4 billion in January of 2010 (Bandelier 28). As quoted in "Time for a Change," researcher Alan M. Tercero claims, "As many as 70 percent of those messages are being sent by people driving cars" (Automotive Review Council 29). An insurance accident investigator, Barry Hulicki, says that drivers using cell phones

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Works Cited

- Automotive Review Council. *Time for a Change*. 2009.
- Bandelier, Adolfo. "Watching Out for You." *Scholarly Journal of Automotive Safety and Security*. vol. 22, no. 1, 2007, pp. 26-30.
- Buck, Arva. "Texting Driver Involved in Fatal Accident." *Terlingua Daily Express* [San Antonio, TX], 10 July 2011, p. A1.
- Demont, Alex. "Like Clockwork." *The Science Monitor*, Aug. 1993, p. 127.