Millersville University

THE WRITING CENTER

# MLA Citations

# MLA Citations

# OVERVIEW

## Parenthetical/In-Text Citations

- Quotes
- Paraphrases

## Works Cited Page

- Works Cited Page References
  - Books
  - Periodicals
  - Electronic sources
- Works Cited Page Format

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Parenthetical/In-Text Citations

In-text citations are when you use an outside source to support a claim in your essay. They guide readers to sources that go into more detail on a topic. They consist of a quote or paraphrase followed by the source information in parentheses.

### Quotes

A direct quote is when you take the author's exact words from a source.
You use direct quotes when:

- The author is a high authority and could lend credibility to your main points
- The author's words are articulate enough to support your ideas
- You are unable to put an idea into your own words

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of Direct Quote In-Text Citations

Patel uses the word “disability” to describe mental illness to make it sound similar to physical health. Jenell Johnson says that the goal of this approach of persuasion is to shift blame from the person to genes or chemistry “because mental illness is biological... ‘it is not anyone’s fault and therefore should have no stigma’” (474).

**Because the author's name is mentioned in the sentence, only the page number is required in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of Direct Quote In-Text Citations

People suffering with mental illnesses tend to be afraid to ask for help due to the stigma mental health has in societies around the world. This is because "[a] diagnosis of mental illness...no matter how long ago, whether minor or severe, whatever the circumstances, can be a permanent identity; the language we often use tells the story: one has heart disease, one is mentally ill" (Reynolds 10).

**Since the author's name does not appear in the sentence, both their name and the page number are required in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of Direct Quote In-Text Citations

Patel mentions in his speech how the stigma of mental health causes people to treat the mentally ill with abuse and injustice: “But perhaps the most heartbreaking of all are the stories of the abuse of even the most basic human rights...even in the very institutions that were built to care for people with mental illnesses” (2012).

**In the case that a source does not include page numbers (such as speeches, interviews, etc.), the speaker or author's name should be present in the sentence or in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Parentheses

A paraphrase is when you reword something that someone else said.
You use paraphrases when:

- You need to simplify the author's words
- You want to explain the main point of a passage
- You want to explain an idea when exact wording isn't important

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of Paraphrase In-Text Citations

TED Talks are directed to everyone around the globe. Bentley University's The Biz stated that one reason why TED Talks are popular is because the younger generation is more open to follow global events due to being more connected with others around the world via social media (Kehoe & Diane 2015).

**Because the author's name is mentioned in the sentence, only the page number is required in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of In-Text Citations

Using interviews of Navajo youth and community members connected with Beauty Mountain High School, this article examines how Native American youth view their native language, their identities, and their academic studies (McCarty, Romero, and Zepeda 30).

**Since the author's name does not appear in the sentence, both their name and the page number are required in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# CITATIONS

## Examples of Paraphrase In-Text Citations

Jane Austen's first novel chronicles the lives of two sisters: Elinor, who feels deeply but masters her emotionswith sheer will and common sense, and Marianne, who also feels deeply but, being a romantic, refuses to control them and even encourages them into extravagant expression (6).

**Because the author's nameis mentioned in the sentence, only the page number is required in the parentheses.**

# MLA Citations

# REFERENCES

## Works Cited Page

The Works Cited page is a separate page at the end of your paper that lists all the sources in your paper. These references are a longer form of the in-text citation you already provided.

## Works Cited Page References

### Books

The following is the standard format for books:

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, publication year.

# MLA Citations

# REFERENCES

## Examples of Book References

Orwell, George. *1984*. 1949. New York, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017.

**Because this book was republished, the original publication date is placed after the title.**

Suetonius. *Lives of Caesars*. Translated by J. C. Rolfe, vol. 1, Loeb-Harvard University Press, 2014.

**In this case, the book was originally written in another language, so the translator is listed (for edited books, the editor would be placed here as well). This is also a multivolume work, so the volume is provided after the translator.**

Meggs, Philip, and Alston Purvis. *Meggs' History of Graphic Design*. 4th ed., Hoboken, Wiley and Sons, 2006.

**This book has multiple authors, so the first author is listed "Last, First" and the second as "and First Last." Additionally, this book has multiple editions, so the edition used is placed after the title.**

# MLA Citations

# REFERENCES

## Periodicals

The following is the standard format for journal articles:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, Publisher, volume, issue, year, pages.

### Example of Journal Article Reference

Forster, Robert. "Achievements of the Annales School." *The Journal of Economic History*, vol. 38, no. 1, 1978, pp. 58-76.

# MLA Citations

# REFERENCES

## Electronic Sources

The following is the standard format for a page on a website:

Author(s). "Title of Webpage." *Title of Website*, Publisher, day month year, URL or DOI.

**Example of Webpage Reference˝**

Younger, Sally. "How NASA Spotted El Niño Changing the Saltiness of Coastal Waters." *NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory*, California Institute of Technology, 3 April 2024, www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/how-nasa-spotted-el-nino-changing-the-saltiness-of-coastal-waters.

# MLA Citations

# PRACTICE

## Book Citation Practice

**Book title:** The Roman Triumph
**Author:** Mary Beard
**Publisher:** The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press
**Publishing city:** Cambridge, Massachusetts
**Publication year:** 2009
**Citation page number:** 42

Using the following information, create an in-text citation for the sentence below.
**The triumph was an important part of the Roman Empire's culture.**

# MLA Citations

# PRACTICE

## Book Reference Practice

**Book title:** The Roman Triumph
**Author:** Mary Beard
**Publisher:** The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press
**Publishing city:** Cambridge, Massachusetts
**Publication year:** 2009

Create a works cited reference for a book using the information listed above.

# MLA Citations

# PRACTICE

## Scholarly Article Citation Practice

**Book title:** Attitudes of British Conservatives towards Decolonization in Africa

**Author:** Dan Horowitz

**Journal:** African Affairs

**Volume:** 69

**Issue number:** 274

**Publication year:** 1970

**Page range:** 9-26

**Citation page number:** 12

Using the following information, create an in-text citation for the sentence below.

**In 1962, the Dominion Party proved victorious in the Southern Rhodesian election.**

# MLA Citations

# PRACTICE

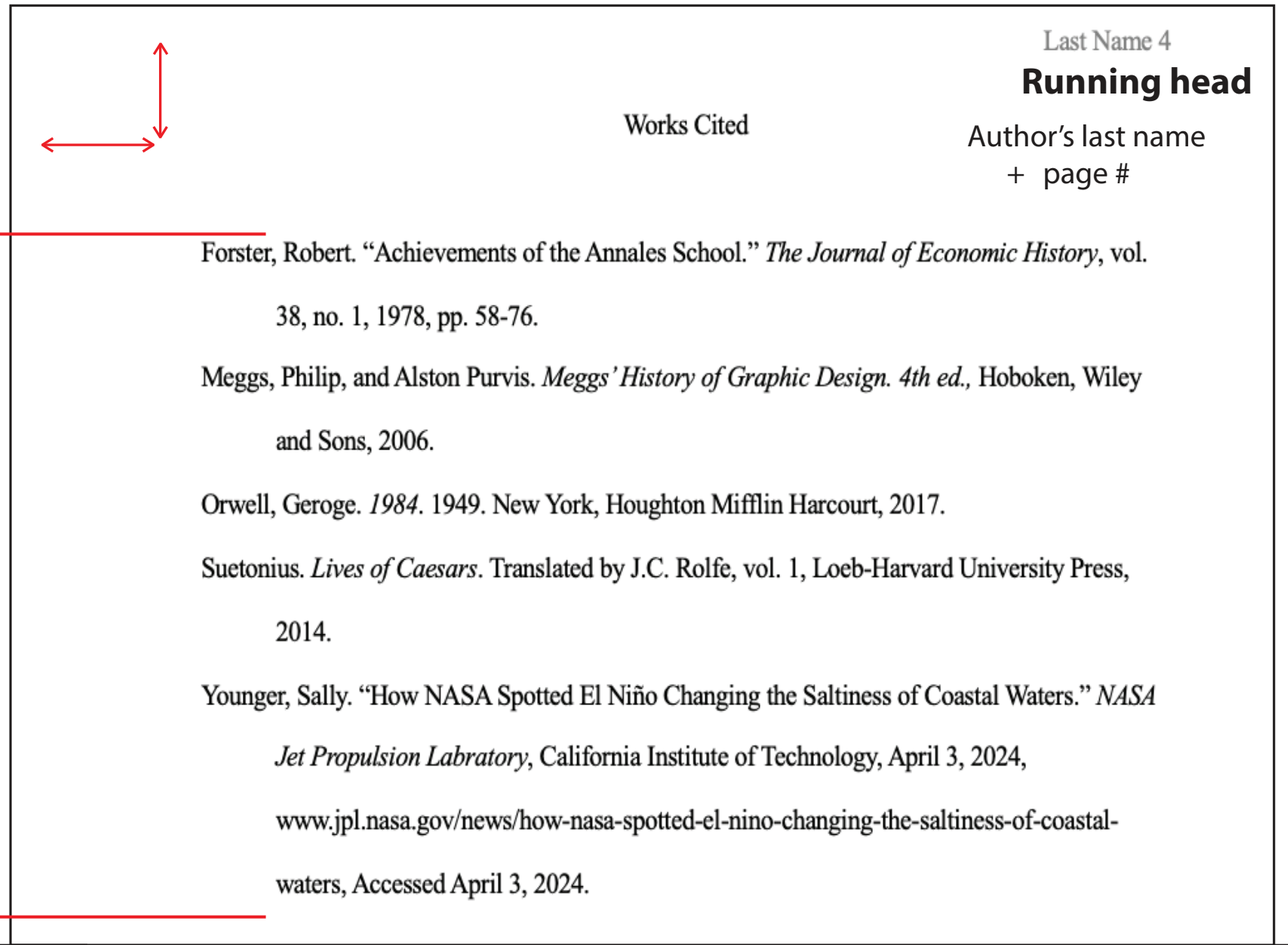
## Scholarly Article Reference Practice

**Book title:** Attitudes of British Conservatives towards Decolonization in Africa
**Author:** Dan Horowitz
**Journal:** African Affairs
**Volume:** 69
**Issue number:** 274
**Publication year:** 1970
**Page range:** 9-26
**Citation page number:** 12

Create a works cited reference for a scholarly article using the information listed above.

# MLA Citations FORMAT

## Works Cited Page Format




Forster, Robert. "Achievements of the Annales School." *The Journal of Economic History*, vol. 38, no. 1, 1978, pp. 58-76.

Meggs, Philip, and Alston Purvis. *Meggs' History of Graphic Design. 4th ed.,* Hoboken, Wiley and Sons, 2006.

Orwell, Geroge. *1984*. 1949. New York, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017.

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Younger, Sally. "How NASA Spotted El Niño Changing the Saltiness of Coastal Waters." *NASA Jet Propulsion Labratory*, California Institute of Technology, April 3, 2024, www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/how-nasa-spotted-el-nino-changing-the-saltiness-of-coastal-waters, Accessed April 3, 2024.

# For More Information

## Make an Appointment with the Writing Center

Make an appointment through Starfish
or send an email to the Writing Center and a tutor will be in touch

writing.center@millersville.edu

https://www.millersville.edu/enwl/writing-center/

McNairy Library, Room 106

**Open Monday - Friday**

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