MLA Citations

When citing your resources in your paper, you need to cite them in two ways: in text and on the Works Cited page.

In-text citations

Parenthetical citations
In MLA citations, the in-text citations should include the author’s last name and the page number the information was found on (if available).

In-text (parenthetical) example
Often, “[t]he greatest generation…” (Smith 263).

Signal phrase
Another way of doing in-text citations is by introducing the author’s name in a signal phrase and adding the page number at the end of the quotation or paraphrase. This is how you want to cite information the first time it appears in your paper. After that, you can use the parenthetical example from above.

In-text (signal phrase) example
According to Anna Smith, Professor of History in the School of Humanities, “The greatest generation…” (263).

Works Cited page
The Works Cited page shows your reader all relevant information regarding your sources. On your Works Cited page, you typically need to include the following information for each source.

- The author’s name
- The title of the source
- Publication information
- Date of publication
- Medium of publication (print, web, video file, etc.)

When you list electronic sources on your Works Cited page, you need to also include the following.

- Website publication information
- The date you accessed the information

More information is usually needed for different types of sources, so be sure to consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Purdue OWL, or another citation resource.

Works Cited book example

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<th>Author’s Name</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Place of Edition Publication</th>
<th>Publisher Name</th>
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Year of Publication Medium of Publication

Inc. 2009 Print
Works Cited web page example

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<td>The OWL at Purdue</td>
<td>Purdue University</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Web</td>
<td>18 Feb. 2015</td>
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Works Cited page example

Works Cited
