

## MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION (MLA)

### CITING SOURCES IN THE TEXT (6.1 - 6.5.2, pp. 237-260)

The *MLA Handbook* recommends the use of parenthetical references in place of endnotes or footnotes. Parenthetical documentation/citation is used for direct and indirect quotation. When using parenthetical citation, give only enough information to identify the print or electronic source. The reader will be able to identify full publication information in the *Works Cited* or *Works Consulted* list. *Works Consulted* indicates that the list is not limited to the sources cited in your paper. It includes material you read, but to which you did not directly refer or quote.

#### Work by One Author (6.1 - 6.3)

**Example 1** (Indirect quote, author's name in text, 6.3)

Tennen has argued this point (178-85).

**Example 2** (Direct quotation - less than four lines of text in your paper, 3.7.2 and 6.1)

Medieval Europe was a place both of "raids, pillages, slavery, and extortion" and of "travelling merchants, monetary exchange, towns if not cities, and active markets in grain" (Townsend 10).

**Example 3** (Direct quotation - more than four lines of text in your paper, 2.7.1 and 6.3)

John K. Mahon adds a further insight to our understanding of the War of 1812:

Financing the war was very difficult at the time. Baring Brothers, a banking firm of the enemy country, handled routine accounts for the United States overseas, but the firm would take on no loans. The loans were in the end absorbed by wealthy Americans at great hazard – also, as it turned out, at great profit to them. (385)

Double-space indented quotations, indent one inch or 10 spaces from the left margin, and do not use quotation marks.

#### Entries in Multivolume Works (encyclopedias, anthologies) (6.4.3)

"An evolutionary history of criticism must fail. I have come to this resigned conclusion" (Wellek, 5: xxii).  
[Author/Editor, volume: page number]

#### Corporate Authors (6.4.5)

According to a study sponsored by the National Research Council, the population of China around 1990 was increasing by more than fifteen million annually (15).

Try to work a long corporate author's name into the body of the text so that the reading is not interrupted. If you are giving the name of a corporate author in parentheses, you may shorten terms that are commonly abbreviated, i.e., (Natl. Research Council 15), (see 7.4).

### **No Author, Citing by Title (6.4.4)**

Even *Sixty Minutes* launched an attack on modern art (“Yes . . . but Is It Art?”).

In the Works Cited list this would be referenced as follows:

“Yes . . . but Is It Art?” Narr. Morley Safer. *Sixty Minutes*. CBS. WCBS, New York. 19 Sept. 1993.

### **More than One Author (6.2, p. 239)**

#### **Two Authors**

Among intentional spoonerisms, the “punlike metathesis of distinctive features may serve to weld together words etymologically unrelated but close in their sound and meaning” (Jakobson and Waugh 304).

#### **Three authors:**

(Rabkin, Greenberg, and Olander vii)

#### **More than three authors:**

(Lauter et al. 2425-33)

### **Citing Indirect Sources (6.4.7)**

Whenever possible, take material from the original source, not a secondhand one. When this is not possible, put the abbreviation *qtd. in* (“quoted in”) before the indirect source. List the original and secondary source in the “Works Cited” list.

Samuel Johnson admitted that Edmund Burke was an “extraordinary man” (*qtd. in* Boswell 2: 450).

### **Electronic Source (i.e., article from Ebsco, Academic Search Premier)**

Just as with print sources, when you use electronic sources you are required to indicate where you derived an idea or an exact quote. Please refer to the *MLA Handbook*, section 6.4.1-6.4.4, for examples of non-print sources such as films, television programs, or recordings. Examples provided here focus on electronic journal articles.

If your source includes page or paragraph numbers cite the relevant numbers by giving the appropriate abbreviation before the numbers.

**Example 1** (Author and paragraph numbers included in article)

(Moulthrop, pars. 19-20)

**Example 2** (Author and page numbers included, such as with a PDF article)

“I had long been impatient with the barrenland snowscape cliché that Hollywood uses so often to characterize my home country” (New 566).

**Example 3** (No pagination or paragraph numbers)

When a web document does not have fixed page numbers or paragraph numbering, you must omit numbers from your parenthetical references and cite the entire work. The *MLA Handbook*, sec. 6.4.1, suggests that you work into the body of your text the name of the person (author, editor, performer).

- a) Michael Joyce was among the first to write fiction in hypertext.
- b) William J. Mitchell's *City of Bits* discusses architecture and urban life.

Note: if you have printed a web document or article, the page numbers of your printout should not be cited because the pagination will vary for different printers. If page numbers are included as part of the article, as is the case with PDF files, you should use the page numbers.

### WORK CITED LIST (5.1-5.9.9)

**Books: One author (5.6.1)**

Pollack, Vivian R. *Dickinson: The Anxiety of Gender*. Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1984.

**Two or three authors (5.6.4)**

Blocker, Clyde E., Robert H. Plummer and Richard C. Richardson, Jr. *The Two-Year College: A Social Synthesis*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice, 1965.

**More than three authors (5.6.4)**

Quirk, Randolph, et al. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman, 1985.

**Books: An Anonymous work (5.6.11)**

*New York Public Library Student's Desk Reference*. New York: Prentice, 1993.

**An Edition (5.6.12, 5.6.14)**

Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Ed. Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. New York: Washington Square-Pocket, 1992. [Ed. refers to "Edited by".]

Bondanella, Peter. *Italian Cinema: From Neorealism to the Present*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Continuum, 2001.

**A Work in an Anthology or a Chapter (5.6.7)**

Calvino, Italo. "Cybernetics and Ghosts." *The Uses of Literature: Essays*. Trans. Patrick Creagh. San Diego: Harcourt, 1982. 3-27.

**Article in a Scholarly Journal with Continuous Pagination (5.7.1)**

Craner, Paul M. "New Tool for an Ancient Art: The Computer and Music." *Computers and the Humanities* 25 (1991): 303-13.

**Article in a Scholarly Journal that Pages Each Issue (5.7.2)**

Barthelme, Frederick. "Architecture." *Kansas Quarterly* 13.3-4 (1981): 77-80.

**Magazine Article (5.7.6)**

Bazell, Robert. "Science and Society: Growth Industry." *New Republic* 15 Mar. 1993: 13-14.

**Newspaper Article (5.7.5)**

Manegold, Catherine S. "Becoming a Land of the Smoke-Free, Ban by Ban." *New York Times* 22 Mar. 1994, late ed.: A1+.

**Review (5.7.7)**

Urdike, John. "No Breaks." Rev. of *Sinclair Lewis: Rebel from Main Street*, by Richard Lingeman. *New Yorker* 4 Feb. 2002: 77-80.

**Electronic Resources (5.9, pp. 207-235. See this section for pagination information.)****Full-Text Article from an online database, i.e., Academic Search Elite (5.9.7)**

Berek, Peter. "Cross-Dressing, Gender, and Absolutism in the Beaumont and Fletcher Plays." *Studies in English Literature* 44 (2004): 359- . *Academic Search Premier*. EBSCO. Mount Saint Vincent University Library, Halifax, NS. 17 Aug. 2004 <<http://search.epnet.com/>>.

**Full-Text Journal Article (5.9.4)**

Sohmer, Steve. "12 June 1599: Opening Day at Shakespeare's Globe." *Early Modern Literary Studies* 3.1 (1997): 46 pars. 26 June 2002 <<http://www.shu.ac.uk/emls/03-1/sphmjuli.html>>.

**Scholarly Project (5.9.2 )**

Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. Perry Willett. May 2002. Indiana U. 7 June 2002 <<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/>>.

**Personal Homepage (5.9.2 c.)**

Lancashire, Ian. Home page. 1 Mar. 2002. 26 July 2003 <<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca:8080/~ian/>>.

**Material from a CD-ROM (5.9.5)**

"Jazz." *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. CD-ROM. New York: Oxford UP, 1992.