



---

## Prepare Bibliographic Citations: Modern Language Association (MLA)

---

### RefWorks

For information on how to use **RefWorks** to automatically format your bibliography online in MLA style see:  
<http://refworks.uconn.edu>

**SOURCE:** Modern Language Association of America. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.  
6th ed. New York: MLA, 2003.

Ref. Desk / Ref. LB 2369 G53

### I. Preparing the List of “Works Cited”

The list of “Works Cited” is the bibliography—a list of the sources cited in the text of the research paper. It appears at the end of the paper, is double-spaced within and between sources, and is usually arranged alphabetically by author’s last name. Sources without authors are arranged alphabetically by title (omitting any A, An, The) within the same list. The first line of each source is flush with the left margin; second and succeeding lines are indented ½ inch (or five typewriter spaces) from the left margin.

### Works Cited

#### A Book: Single Author

Hart, James D. The Oxford Companion to American Literature. 5th ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1983.

#### A Book: Two or More Authors

Barickman, Richard, Susan Peck MacDonald, and Myra Stark. Corrupt Relations: Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope, Collins, and the Victorian Sexual System. New York: Columbia UP, 1982.

*For more than three authors, name only the first followed by et al.*

#### A Work in an Anthology or Compilation

Moravcevic, N. “The Romanticization of the Prostitute in Dostoevsky’s Fiction.” The Image of the Prostitute in Modern Literature. Ed. Pierre L. Horn and Mary Beth Pringle. New York: Ungar, 1984. 53-61.

### **A Multivolume Work**

Morgan, Margery M. "George Bernard Shaw." British Writers. Ed. Ian Scott-Kelvert. Vol. 6. New York: Scribner's, 1983.

*When using 2 or more volumes of a multivolume set, cite the total number of volumes in the set.*

Sole, Carlos A. and Maria Isabel Abreu, eds. Latin American Writers. 3 vols. New York: Scribner's 1989.

### **An Encyclopedia Article**

Holman, C. Hugh. "Romanticism." Encyclopedia Americana. 1995 ed.

*When citing less familiar encyclopedias, give full publication information.*

Kiernan, Brian. "Australian Novel." Encyclopedia of the Novel. Ed. Paul Schellinger. 2 vols. Chicago: Fitzroy, 1998.

### **A Government Publication**

United States. Senate. Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Committee of the Judiciary. Hearing on the English Language Amendment. 98th Cong., 2nd sess. S. Res. 167. Washington: GPO, 1984.

For more examples, see *Citing Government Information Sources Using MLA (Modern Language Association) Style*. <http://www.library.unr.edu/depts/bgic/guides/government/cite.html>

### **A Periodical Article in a Continuously Paged Scholarly Journal**

Baranczak, Stanislaw. "The Polish Complex." Trans. Jaroslaw Anders and Lynne Shapiro. Partisan Review 51 (1984): 433-441.

### **An Article in a Scholarly Journal that Pages Each Issue Separately**

Manheim, Leonard F. "Outside Looking In: Evidences of Primal-Scene Fantasy in Hawthorne's Fiction." Literature and Psychology 31.1 (1981): 4-15.

*If the journal only uses issue numbers, treat the issue number as a volume number.*

### **An Article from a Weekly Magazine**

Will, George F. "In Defense of the Mother Tongue." Newsweek 8 July 1985: 78.

*For magazines published daily, weekly, or monthly, omit the volume and issue numbers. Give the complete date for daily and weekly magazines; give month and year for monthly magazines.*

### **An Article from a Daily Newspaper**

Maddocks, Melvin. "Remembering Jorge Luis Borges and His Grand Illusions." Christian Science Monitor 20 June 1986: A 23.

### **An Editorial**

"The Corny, Carny Spirit of '86'." Editorial. New York Times 29 June 1986, late ed., sec. 4: 22.

### **A Review**

Towers, Robert. "Mystery Women." Rev. of Cat's Eye, by Margaret Atwood. New York Review of Books 27 Apr. 1989: 50-51.

### **An Interview**

Drabble, Margaret. "Margaret Drabble: Cautious Feminist." By Diana Cooper-Clark. Atlantic Monthly November 1980: 69-75.

If an interview is untitled, include the word **Interview** after the name of the interviewee.

## **Electronic Publications**

### **Online Sources**

Cite online sources like print sources but include the date assigned to the material, the date of access, and the URL (network address). If the URL for the exact source is too long, use the URL of the site's search page.

### **Entire Internet Site (online scholarly project, information database, journal, professional site)**

American Verse Project. 30 July 1999. University of Michigan Humanities Text Initiative.  
20 Jan. 2000 <<http://www.hti.umich.edu/english/amverse/>>

### **Entire Online Book**

Stowe, Harriet Beecher. Uncle Tom's Cabin. 1852. Bibliomania. 1 Oct. 2003.  
<<http://www.bibliomania.com>>

To cite part of an online book, include the title/name of the part between the author's name and the book title. Enclose in quotation marks, if part is a work like a poem, essay, short story.

### **Article from an Online Periodical Freely Available on the Internet**

Rice, Thomas Jackson. "Ulysses, Chaos, and Complexity." Hypermdia Joyce Studies 1.1 (1995). 25  
Jan. 2000 <<http://astro.temple.edu/~callahan/hjs/hjs.html>>

### **Periodical Article from an Online Service Subscribed to By the Library**

Include the name of the database, name of the service and the library, and the date of access. Also include the URL for the service's homepage, if known.

Bak, John S. "Escaping the Jaundiced Eye: Foucauldian Panopticism in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's 'The Yellow Wallpaper.'" Studies in Short Fiction 31 (1994): 39-47. InfoTrac. Gale Group. Homer Babbidge Library. 21 Apr. 1998 <<http://www.galegroup.com/>>

### **Online Government Publication**

United States. Dept. of Health and Human Services. Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth. 1998. 2 Mar. 2000 <<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/98trends/trends98.htm>>

### **Online Manuscript or Working Paper**

Rooney Monique. "My You : Fannie Hurst, Zora Neale Hurston and Literary Patronage." Working Paper on the Web. 2 Oct. 2003 <<http://www.shu.ac.uk/wpw.htm>>

### **CD-ROMs**

Cite CD-ROM sources like print sources but include the medium used (CD-ROM, magnetic tape), the vendor's name (SilverPlatter, UMI-Proquest), and the date of electronic publication (release date or date at which database coverage ends).

### **Material from a Periodically Published Database on CD-ROM**

Gere, Anne Ruggles, ed. Roots in the Sawdust: Writing to Learn Across the Disciplines. Urbana: NCTE, 1985. ERIC. CD-ROM. SilverPlatter. 1991.

### **Material from a Nonperiodically Published Database on CD-ROM**

"Chanticleer." The Oxford English Dictionary. 2nd ed. CD-ROM. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1992.

For more examples of citations for World Wide Web resources, check this site:

**MLA Style**

[http://www.mla.org/publications/style/style\\_faq/style\\_faq4](http://www.mla.org/publications/style/style_faq/style_faq4)

## **II. Documenting Your Sources Using Parenthetical Documentation**

In the research paper, point out information taken from each source named in the "Works Cited" and the exact place in that source where the information was located. Put references in parentheses in the text of the paper. The information in the parentheses usually includes the author's name and the specific page(s), and refers to the same source in the "Works Cited." For sources without authors, use a shortened version of the title. Place the parenthetical reference as near as possible to the material it documents, preferably at the end of a sentence. The parenthetical reference precedes the concluding punctuation mark.

## Basic Format of Parenthetical Documentation

Text of research paper with parenthetical reference:

Mayne Reid's 1856 novel, The Quadroon, formed the basis of Dion Boucicault's 1859 play, The Octoroon (Hart 621).

Book referred to in the "Works Cited":

Hart, James D. The Oxford Companion to American Literature. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1983.

## Variations of Parenthetical Documentation

When authors' names are mentioned in the text of the paper, use only page numbers in the parenthetical reference.

Barickman, MacDonald, and Stark have noted this relationship (10-11).

See "*Works Cited*," p. 1

When an author's name is *referred to* in the text of the paper, include that name and page numbers in the parenthetical reference.

This argument has been presented previously (Morgan 6: 119).

See "*Works Cited*," p. 2

When citing two works in a *single* parenthetical reference, cite author and page in the basic format. Insert a semi-colon and cite the other author and page.

Romanticism is philosophically centered on the individual (Moravecevich 55; Holman 682).

See "*Works Cited*," p. 1

When citing *one* of two or more works by the *same* author, insert a comma after the last name of the author, and add the title of the work (if short), or a briefer version, and the page.

Edgar Allan Poe was an important prophet of Symbolism, whose critical writings provided the first scriptures of the Symbolist Movement (Wilson, Axel's Castle, 12).

## Works Cited

Wilson, Edmund. Axel's Castle: A Study in the Imaginative Literature of 1870-1930. New York: Scribner's, 1969.

---. Patriotic Gore: Studies in the Literature of the American Civil War. New York: Oxford UP, 1962.

When citing *two* or more works by the *same* editor or translator in succeeding entries, use 3 hyphens followed by a period, and the title.

- For more examples and information see the following source at the Babbidge Library, Level 1, Reference Desk:  
**MLA Handbook: Ref. Desk / Ref. LB 2369 G53**
- This **MLA Citations** guide is online at: <http://www.lib.uconn.edu/using/finding/guides/MLAibli.PDF>