

MLA CITATION STYLE

The Modern Language Association (MLA) has developed a citation style which is recommended for QAA students. The following guidelines are based on the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th edition, 2003 (REF 808.02 G35m).

When you borrow someone else's ideas or opinions, facts or statistics, if you paraphrase, or use direct quotations, you must give credit where credit is due. Using someone else's ideas, etc., without acknowledging the author, is committing plagiarism which the MLA defines as intellectual theft. The purpose of the rules and examples is to guide you when acknowledging sources used in your essays and research papers. This also allows teachers and other readers to identify and locate the sources.

There are basically two types of citation you must use when using the MLA citation style:

- 1) parenthetical references within the body or text of your paper**
- 2) an alphabetical list of Works Cited (formerly called bibliography) at the end of your paper - consult the title page and the verso of the title page for print sources - a sample page of Works Cited can be found at the end of this MLA citation style guide**

PARENTHETICAL REFERENCES WITHIN THE TEXT OF YOUR PAPER

Parenthetical references (references within parentheses or brackets) allow you to acknowledge a source within the body of your paper by providing a brief reference to exactly where you found the information. Your teacher can then refer to the matching complete reference which is listed on your Works Cited page at the end of your paper. Some basic rules and examples for parenthetical documentation follow.

In a parenthetical citation or reference, the following basic rules apply :

1) cite the author's last name and the page number of the reference, within brackets

a) for one author, provide the last name of the *author*, leave a space, then provide the *page number(s)*

e.g. The author states that "... still at risk are thousands of works of art and archaeological artifacts – evidence of the area's rich and complex history"(Lawler 32).

- b) for two or three authors, provide the last names of the *authors*, leave a space, then provide the *page number(s)*

e.g. The authors believe that Merlin was King Arthur's protector (**Kronzek and Kronzek 167**).

I agree with the authors' original thesis (**Douglas, Jones, and Smith 56-60**).

- c) for more than three authors, provide the last name of the *first author*, followed by *et al.*, leave a space, and then provide the *page number (s)*

e.g. The authors present some interesting facts about cameras and also provide tips used by professional photographers (**Bennington et al. 130-87**).

- 2) cite the first few words of the title, within quotation marks, if there is no author, and then give the page number**

e.g. Coral reefs are complex ocean invertebrates ("**Coral Reef**" 953).

- 3) leave the author's name out of your parenthetical citation if the name is clearly stated in your sentence, and just cite the page number(s)**

e.g. Cohn argues his point about Tennessee Williams (**55-70**).

As pointed out by Lumiansky, "Geoffrey Chaucer, the outstanding English writer before Shakespeare, is among England's greatest poets" (**745**).

According to Lawler, "... still at risk are thousands of works of art and archaeological artifacts – evidence of the area's rich and complex history" (32).

In their introduction to The Sorcerer's Companion, the Kronzeks state that the world of magic has a long and rich history (xiii-xv).

4) incorporate the author's name into the sentence, instead of using a parenthetical reference, if the entire work is being acknowledged

e.g. UNICEF's main thesis is that by tackling the problem of AIDS, the number of Africa's orphans will decrease.

5) cite plays as follows

e.g. Play from Shakespeare – cite the abbreviated title, and then the act, scene, and line(s) with periods separating the various numbers

One Shakespearean protagonist seems resolute at first when he asserts, "Haste me to know't, that I, with wings as swift / As meditation .../ May sweep to my revenge" (Ham. 1.5. 35-37).

e.g. Other plays – cite the author, page number, act and scene (if any)

In Death of a Salesman, Willie Loman begs for his job when he is fired by his employer. Willie says "I put thirty-four years into this firm, Howard, and now I can't pay my insurance! You can't eat the orange and throw the peel away – a man is not a piece of fruit!" (Miller 82; act 2).

6) to cite quotations

e.g. Quotations of four lines or less

Rowling writes the following about Harry Potter when he is asked to take a test on magic at his new school. “He’d never been more nervous, never, not even when he’d had to take a school report home to the Dursleys saying that he’d somehow turned his teacher’s wig blue” (86).

e.g. Quotations longer than four lines - begin the quote on a new line, then indent, single-space your quotation – do not use quotation marks but simply place your citation after the closing period

The silver doors bore the following inscription:

Enter, stranger, but take heed
Of what awaits the sin of greed,
For those who take, but do not earn,
Must pay most dearly in their turn,
So if you seek beneath our floors
A treasure that was never yours,
Thief, you have been warned, beware
Of finding more than treasure there.
(Rowling 56-57)

7) if you want to cite an entire non-print source (e.g. film, television program, CD, etc.), or a work with no page numbers like electronic publications with no reference markers, it is preferable to include the author’s name (director, performer, etc.) in your sentence rather than cite it in a parenthetical reference

e.g. Miscellaneous nonprint sources

Norah Jones provides us with a soulful performance

on the first track of her debut CD.

Kent Nagano gave a memorable interpretation in

his role as the orchestra's conductor.

e.g. Electronic sources

Claudia Kalb reveals many new insights into autism in

her online article.

Mckay's love for animation shines through when he

discusses Bambi's digital makeover for DVD.

Dan Guravich was one of the first photographers to

present polar bear images online.

According to Herlinger, in his online article, there are

many complex reasons for the chaos in Colombia.

8) if you want to cite a web page (electronic publication) that has paging or reference markers like section numbering or numbering of paragraphs, cite the relevant page numbers or markers after the author's name in your parenthetical reference

e.g. Online source with paging

According to Arthurian scholars, searching for

King Arthur continues to present a challenge (**Boardman 108**).

e.g. Online source with numbered paragraphs

(**Author's last name, pars. 4-5**). pars. stands for paragraphs.

LIST OF WORKS CITED

This list of references should appear on a new page at the end of your paper in a “Works Cited” list, formerly called a bibliography. Your parenthetical references must match the corresponding citations in your list of Works Cited. Some guidelines are:

- arrange sources in *alphabetical order*, by the last name of the author and then the first name – do not number your sources
- if a source has *no author*, arrange alphabetically by title, ignoring “A”, “An” or “The” if it appears at the beginning of the title
- *underline* the title of a book, encyclopedia, magazine, etc.
- use *quotation marks* for the title of a chapter in a book, or the title of an article in an encyclopedia, magazine, etc. - the title of the book, encyclopedia, or magazine, etc. is underlined
- *capitalize* each word in the title of a book, magazine article, etc. (exceptions are short prepositions, articles or conjunctions if they appear in the middle of a title)
- *double-space* entries
- start *first line* of each entry at the margin, and indent five spaces for the second and subsequent lines

PART A : WORKS CITED PRINT AND MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES

PRINT SOURCES - BOOKS

BOOK: One author

Rowling, J.K. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.

Vancouver: Raincoast Books, 2000.

BOOK: Two or three authors

Kronzek, Allan Zola, and Elizabeth Kronzek. The Sorcerer's

Companion: A Guide to the Magical World of Harry Potter.

New York: Broadway Books, 2001.

BOOK: More than three authors

Bennington, Stephen, et al. Great Inventions. London:

Southwater, 2001.

BOOK: Corporate author

UNICEF. Africa's Orphaned Generations. New York: UNICEF,

2003.

BOOK: Chapter in a book

Cohn, Ruby. "The Garrulous Grotesques of Tennessee Williams."

Tennessee Williams. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea

House Publishers, 1987. 55-70.

PRINT SOURCES - REFERENCE WORKS

For well-known encyclopedias and reference books, it is not necessary to include full publication information. It is only necessary to show the edition, if any, and the publication date. For articles from less familiar reference books, please include full publication information.

ENCYCLOPEDIA: (well-known reference)

Signed article (author's name is usually indicated at the end of the article)

Lumiansky, R.M. "Chaucer." The New Encyclopedia Britannica:

Macropaedia. 15th ed. 1993.

ENCYCLOPEDIA: (unfamiliar reference)

Unsigned article

"Coral Reef." Van Nostrand's Scientific Encyclopedia.

Ed. Glenn D. Considine. 9th ed. 2 vols. New York:

Wiley, 2002.

**PRINT SOURCES -
MAGAZINE/JOURNAL
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Signed article

Lawler, Andrew. "Saving Afghan Culture."

National Geographic Dec. 2004: 28-41.

MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Unsigned article

"The Decade of the Spy." Newsweek 7 Mar. 1994: 26-27.

JOURNAL ARTICLE: elements are:
Author. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Vol.
and issue number (Year): paging

Lupton, Mary Jane. "Singing the Black Mother: Maya Angelou and

Autobiographical Continuity." Black American Literature

Forum 24.2 (1990): 257-75.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE: Signed article

Bagnall, Janet. "Drug Companies Blinded by Quest for Profit."

The Gazette (Montreal) 19 Nov. 2004: A19.

MEDIA SOURCES
**(DVD, FILM OR MOTION PICTURE,
SONG ON A CD, TELEVISION
PROGRAM, VIDEO RECORDING)**

DVD:

Meet the Parents. Dir. Jay Roach. Perf. Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, and Teri Polo. DVD. Universal, 2001.

FILM or MOTION PICTURE:

Alex and Emma. Dir. Bob Reiner. Perf. Luke Wilson, Kate Hudson, and David Paymer. Warner Bros., 2003.

SONG ON A CD:

Jones, Norah. “Don’t Know Why.” Come Away With Me.
Rec. 2001. Blue Note, 2002.

TELEVISION PROGRAM:

“Bali, Masterpiece of the Gods.” National Geographic.
Television Program. NBC. WPNT, Buffalo, NY
5 Feb. 2002.

VIDEO RECORDING:

After the Montreal Massacre. Dir. Gerry Rogers. Prod. Nicole Hubert.
Videocassette. National Film Board, 1990.

WORKS OF ART

WORK OF ART: Art viewed personally

Matisse, Henri. Portrait of Greta Moll. Montreal Museum of Fine

Arts, Montreal.

WORK OF ART: Art in a book

Cassatt, Mary. Mother and Child. Metropolitan Museum of Art,

New York. Masterpieces of the Met. By Donelson F. Hoopes.

New York: Prentice Hall, 1987. 23.

MISCELLANEOUS

ADVERTISEMENT: Print

Chanel for Women. Advertisement. Seventeen. May 2004: 77.

ADVERTISEMENT: TV or Radio

Pepsi-Cola Company. Advertisement. CFCF, Montreal.

15 Mar. 2003.

CARTOON:

Rall, Ted. “Napster 2.0: The Next Generation.” Cartoon.

Time. 7 Aug. 2000: 18.

CONCERT:

Nagano, Kent. Cond. Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Place des Arts,

Montreal. 4 Feb. 2004.

INTERVIEW: An interview from a magazine – give name of person interviewed, title of interview, interviewer’s name, title of magazine, date, paging

Morissette, Alanis. “Alanis Morissette.” Interview by Karen Bliss.

Canadian Musician July/Aug. 2004: 20.

INTERVIEW: An interview that you conducted - include date of interview

Pitt, Brad. Personal Interview. Montreal. 8 Sept. 2005.

LECTURE, SPEECH, OR A READING:

Atwood, Margaret. “Silencing the Scream.” Boundaries of the

Imagination Forum. MLA Convention. Royal York Hotel,

Toronto. 29 Dec. 1993.

Hackett, Linda. Lecture on Shakespeare’s Othello. Queen of Angels

Academy, Dorval. 16 Feb. 2005.

MAP: Cite maps from atlases as a book.

Cite an individual map as follows:

The World. Map. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic

Society, 1999.

PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPH:

Grandpa Bob’s Garden. Personal photograph by

Jane Smith. 14 May 2004.

STAGE PLAY:

Burnt Piano. By Justin Fleming. Dir. Simon Phillips.

Centaur Theatre Company, Montreal. 26 Oct. 2004.

PART B : WORKS CITED – ELECTRONIC SOURCES

This part is based on the Modern Language Association's MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th edition, 2003, section 5.9.1-4. – "Citing Electronic Publications" (REF 808.02 G35m).

AN ENTIRE INTERNET SITE

The entry should provide:

1. Title of the site (underlined)
2. Name of the editor of the site (if provided)
3. Electronic publication information (including version number if relevant, date of electronic publication or of the latest update, and name of the sponsoring institution or organization)
4. Date you accessed the site and the URL within angled brackets < >

LIST OF WORKS CITED - ELECTRONIC SOURCES 15

CNN.com. 2005. Cable News Network. 9 Mar. 2005

< <http://www.cnn.com/>>.

History Channel.com. 2005. The History Channel. 14 Feb.

2005 <<http://www.historychannel.com/>>.

Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. John Walsh.

24 Apr. 2003. Indiana University. 11 Mar. 2005 <[http://](http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/)

www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/> .

WEB PAGES

The entry should provide:

1. Name of the person who created it
2. Title of the site (underlined)
3. Date of the last update given
4. Date you accessed the site and the URL within angled brackets < >

A personal web page, with date of posting available. (Author)

Barnhart, Brenda. Brennie's Poetry. 2005.

9 Mar. 2005 <http://www.brenniesdreamscape.com/>

POEMS/>.

Schrock, Kathleen. Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators.

1 June 1995. 3 Mar. 2005 <<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/>>.

A personal home page, with date of posting available. (Author)

Moss, Olive. Home page. 10 Sept. 2004. 8 Apr. 2005

<<http://www.comp.qaa.ca:8080/~olive/>>.

An organization's web page, with date of posting available. (No author)

“Joyce Wieland.” Celebrating Women's Achievements:

Women Artists in Canada. 2 Oct. 2000. National Library

of Canada. 7 Mar. 2005 <[http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/](http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/women/h12-523-e.html)

[women/h12-523-e.html](http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/women/h12-523-e.html)>.

QAA ELECTRONIC DATABASES

This is the citation style to use for articles you may get from online subscription databases that the QAA Library subscribes to, for example, EBSCOhost and Britannica Online.

The entry should provide:

- 1. Author**
- 2. “Title of the article” - in quotation marks**
- 3. Publication name - underlined**
- 4. Publication date of the original source : volume number and issue number, (Year):**
- 5. Page number/range**
- 6. Name of database used – underlined**
- 7. Database provider’s name**
- 8. Name of library subscribing to the service**
- 9. Date you accessed the site**
- 10. Electronic address of the subscription database - within angled brackets < >**

**Herlinger, Chris. “Chaos in Colombia.” Christian Century 119.23
(2002): 28-31. Canadian Reference Centre. EBSCOhost. Queen of
Angels Academy Library. 22 Sept. 2004 <<http://www.epnet.com>>.**

**“Veronica, Saint.” Encyclopaedia Britannica. 2005. Encyclopaedia
Britannica Online School Edition. Queen of Angels Academy
Library. 22 Apr. 2005 <<http://www.school.eb.com>>.**

ONLINE BOOKS

BOOK: Entire online book

Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice. Ed. Henry Churchyard.

14 Feb. 2005 <<http://www.pemberley.com/janeinfo/pridprej.html>>.

BOOK: Part of an online book

Keats, John. "Ode on a Grecian Urn." Poetical Works. 1884.

Bartleby.com: Great Books Online. Ed. Steven van Leeuwen. 2004.

16 Feb. 2005 <<http://www.bartleby.com/126/41.html>>.

ONLINE REFERENCE SOURCE

ENCYCLOPEDIA: Signed article

Sentman, Eugene. "Aardvark." Grolier Online. March 2002.

14 Dec. 2003 <<http://gogrolier.com>>.

ENCYCLOPEDIA: Unsigned article

"Aardvark." Microsoft Encarta Online Encyclopedia. 2005.

25 Feb. 2005 <http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761571892/Aardvark.html>.

**ONLINE - MAGAZINE/JOURNAL
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Signed article

Kalb, Claudia. "When Does Autism Start?" Newsweek

28 Feb. 2005. 3 Mar. 2005 <<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6994474/site/newsweek>>.

MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Unsigned article

"Great Minds, Great Ideas." Newsweek 27 May 2002.

20 May 2002 <<http://www.msnbc.com/news/754336.asp>>.

JOURNAL ARTICLE: important elements are: Author. "Title of Article." Title of Online Journal Vol. Issue number (Year): Pages. Date of access <electronic address>

Boardman, Phil. "Searching for Arthur: Literary Highways, Electronic

Byways, and Cultural Back Roads." Arthuriana 11.4 (2001):

108-22. Abstract. 4 Mar. 2005 <<http://www.smu.edu/arthuriana/>>. Path: Abstracts; A-F.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE: Signed article

Mckay, John. "Disney Animation Classic Bambi Gets Complete

Digital Makeover for DVD Issue." The Gazette (Montreal)

28 Feb. 2005. 3 Mar. 2005 <<http://www.canada.com/montreal/>

[montrealgazette/news/popculture/story.html?id=8473d...>](http://montrealgazette/news/popculture/story.html?id=8473d...).

ONLINE IMAGE/IMAGES

AN ONLINE IMAGE OR SERIES OF IMAGES

The entry should provide:

1. Artist if available
2. "Description or title of image" – in quotation marks
3. Date of image
4. Online image
5. Title of larger site – underlined
6. Date you accessed the site and the URL within angled brackets < >

Guravich, Dan. "A Gallery of Polar Bear Images." 2004. Online image.

The Polar Bear Gallery. 12 Mar. 2005.

<<http://www.polarbearsalive.org/gallery.php>>.

E-MAIL (OR OTHER PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS)

E-MAIL TO YOU

Smith, Jane. "Re: Arthurian Legend." E-mail to the author.

15 Nov. 2004.

ONLINE POSTING

Karper, Erin. "Welcome." Online posting. 23 Oct. 2004. Professional

Writing Bulletin Board. 12 Nov. 2000 <<http://linnell.english.purdue.edu/ubb/Forum2/HTML/000001.html>>.

CD-ROMs

ENCYCLOPEDIA article on CD-ROM:

"World War II." Encarta. CD-ROM. Seattle: Microsoft, 2005.

MISCELLANEOUS CD-ROMs

Le Musee du Louvre : les Collections. CD-ROM. Paris:

Montparnasse Multimedia, 1998.

Poetry Speaks: Hear Great Poets Read Their Work from Tennyson to

Plath. Narr. by Charles Osgood. CD-ROM. Naperville, ILL.:

Sourcebooks, 2001.

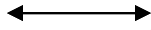


2.5 cm

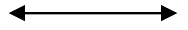
SAMPLE OF WORKS CITED

Works Cited (center title)

Double-space after Works Cited



2.5 cm



2.5 cm

History Channel.com. 2005. The History Channel. 14 Feb. 2005

<<http://www.historychannel.com/>>.

Lumiansky, R.M. "Chaucer." The New Encyclopedia Britannica: Macropaedia.

15th ed. 1993.

Meet the Parents. Dir. Jay Roach. Perf. Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, and

Teri Polo. DVD. Universal, 2001.

Miller, Arthur. Death of a Salesman. New York: Penguin, 1976.

Rowling, J.K. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Vancouver:

Raincoast Books, 2000.

"Veronica, Saint." Encyclopaedia Britannica. 2005. Encyclopaedia Britannica

Online School Edition. Queen of Angels Academy Library. 22 Apr. 2005

<<http://www.school.eb.com/>>.

GUIDELINES

- 1. Leave 2.5 cm (i.e. 1 inch) at the top and bottom of the page, and on both sides of the text.**
- 2. Use 12 point font and Times New Roman typeface.**
- 3. Double-space throughout and indent five spaces.**



2.5 cm

SAMPLE OF TITLE PAGE

**center title
one-third down page**

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

**Mary Smith
4A**

**student's name
homeroom**

**Ms. Dorion
English
13 September 2005**

**teacher
course
date**