

A Guide to MLA Citations, 8th Edition

MLA citations include the following elements for each Works Cited entry. They are listed in the following order and followed by the punctuation, as illustrated.

1. Author.
2. Title of source.
3. Title of container,
4. Other contributors,
5. Version,
6. Number,
7. Publisher,
8. Publication date,
9. Location.

NOTE ON FORMATTING:
Citations are double spaced and have a hanging indent (each line of the citation, after the first line, is indented 5 spaces).

Author – the citation begins with the author’s last name, followed by a comma the remainder of the name and a period.

Peary, Erin E. *Women for Peace*. Knoff, 2014.

Title – the title comes next in the citation. Titles are listed in italics or quotation marks depending on the type of source it is. Book titles and websites are written in italics.

Sluis, Ralph E. *Aircraft of the Korean War*. University of Chicago Press, 2013.

Walker, Hugh Dyson. “East Asia: A New History.” 2012. *The Forum for East Asian Studies*, www.eastasiaforum.edu. Accessed 13 Jan. 2017.

Periodicals - including journal, magazine and newspaper articles, are written in quotation marks.

Peary, Elizabeth. “Aptitude v. Attitude.” *Harvard Review*, 26 (2014): 185-94.

Title of container - the 8th edition of the MLA Handbook refers to the title of the work as the “source” and the larger body, where it is located, as the “container.” The title of the container is written in italics, followed by a comma and the information following describes the container.

Book:

Eastman, Charles Gamage. “A Snow-Storm.” *The World’s Best Poetry*, edited by John Vance Cheney, John D. Morris & Company, 1904, pp. 306-07.

Critical Essay in a Database – container within a container:

“Because I Could Not Stop for Death.” *Poetry for Students*, edited by Marie Rose Napierkowski and Mary Ruby, vol. 2, Gale, 1998, pp. 26-38. *Literature Resource Center*, go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=LitRC&sw=w&u=napl44696&v=2.1&id=GALE%7CA194978886&it=r&asid=b273ba8c5dd2dec6de1618fb3c8f1c18. Accessed 1 Feb. 2017.

Other contributors – additional contributors such as editors, illustrators and translators should be included in the citation if they help to identify the source. The terms are no longer abbreviated.

Eastman, Charles Gamage. "A Snow-Storm." *The World's Best Poetry*, edited by John Vance Cheney, John D. Morris & Co., 1904, pp. 306-07.

Version – if the work lists a version or edition, it should be included in the citation.

Christensen, Elaine. *The Village that was Naples*. 2nd ed., Knoff, 2016.

Number –volume numbers, issue numbers, or both, if present, must be included in the citation.

London, Kate E. "Modern Chivalry and Resistance." *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, edited by Rosalind D. Darrow, vol. 227, Gale, 2010. *Literature Resource Center*, go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=LitRC&sw=w&u=napl44696&v=2.1&id=GALE%7CH1420100230&it=r&asid=9076a53da064dacff66fd7274036759f. Accessed 1 Jan. 2017. Originally published in *American Literature*, vol. 67, no. 2, June 1995, pp. 257-281.

Location – a citation should identify the specific location of the work. Articles or essays in a larger container must include page numbers. Works on the web must include a URL.

City of publication – the eighth edition of the MLA handbook does not require the city of publication unless the work was published prior to 1900.

Date of access – MLA recommends including an access date for web based sources.

DOIs – digital object identifiers lead to a location of an article or journal online. If a DOI is listed, it should be used instead of the URL. Even if the URL changes, the work can still be located using the DOI.

Janes, Adam, and Karl C. Janes. "The Effect of Mercury on Deep Sea Crustaceans." *Science*, vol. 19, no. 1, 2 Feb. 2016, pp. 53-65. *ProQuest*, doi: 10.1002/tox.20155. Accessed 24 Nov. 2016.

In-text citations/parenthetical citations – are references to a direct quote, paraphrase or idea from a source within the text of your paper, which refers the reader to the Works Cited page. The in-text citation is usually the author's last name and page number or first three words of a web page, in parentheses, at the end of the quote or paragraph.

In recent years, "findings from numerous studies have resulted in the development of assessment tools that can be used both on and off the field to provide a much more accurate diagnosis and treatment of concussions" (MacDonald 297).

or

According to Ian MacDonald, new assessment protocols have made it easier to accurately identify and treat concussions (297).