MLA Style


**Parenthetical References**

Parenthetical references document information derived from other sources. Quotes and paraphrasing are followed by parenthetical references that correspond to citations in the “Works Cited” bibliography at the end of the paper. Place references where a pause in your text would naturally occur, as near as possible to the material it documents. Give author’s name and page number if the author is not named in your sentence. If a reference concludes a sentence, it precedes the punctuation mark.

**Short Quote:** For a brief quotation, place the reference after the closing quotation mark but before the final punctuation.

Ex. “No pursuit is better adapted than photography to cultivate powers of observation; but this demands attention and reflection” (Gernsheim 117).

**Long Quote:** If the quote runs more than four lines within the text it should be set off by indenting one inch from the left margin, typing it double-spaced and omitting the quotation marks.

Ex. No pursuit is better adapted than photography to cultivate powers of observation; but this demands attention and reflection. However simple the manipulation, there is no shortcut to artistic knowledge. Intelligence and care are as vital for the production of good photographs as for success in any medium. (Gernsheim 117)

Corresponding Citation: The corresponding citation would appear in the Works Cited:


**Parenthetical Reference Examples**

**Author’s Name in Text:** If the author’s name is used in the sentence, the reference need only include the page number.

Ex. Gernsheim states that the photographer’s primary interest is illumination and reflection (139).

**Works by the Same Author:** If you are using two or more works by the same author, put a comma after the author’s last name, give the title of the work (only enough to differentiate) and the page numbers.

Ex. The influence of photography on painting was profound, especially in France where painting had been confined to enormous historical canvases (Gernsheim, *Creative Photography* 37).

**Works Listed by Title:** In a reference to a work listed by title, a shortened version of the title is used.

Ex. Americans have proven themselves to be among the most innovative of amateur photographers (*Exceptional Amateur* 12).

Corresponding Citation: The corresponding citation would appear in the Works Cited:

**Works by Two or More Authors:** When two or three names are given as authors, use the last name of each person, followed by page numbers.

*Ex.* (Greenburg, Lyons, and Lynch 185-87).

When the work has more than three authors, use the abbreviation “et al.” after the last name of the first author.

*Ex.* (McKay, et al. 278).

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**Works Cited**

The *MLA Handbook* recommends the term “Works Cited” when preparing a bibliography. The Works Cited page should include all sources you have cited in your text. The list appears on a separate page or pages at the end of the paper and is arranged alphabetically. Double-space both within and between entries. Begin each citation at the left margin. If a citation runs more than one line, indent the next line or lines five (5) spaces or one half inch (1/2”) from the left margin.

*Ex.*

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**Print Books:**

**Books with One Author:**


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**Books with Two or More Authors:**


If there are more than three authors, you may give the name of the first author followed by “et al.” (and others), or you may give all the names in full in the order they appear on the title page.


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**Two or More Books by the Same Author:**

Give the name of the author in the first entry only. Afterwards, in place of the name use three hyphens followed by a period, and the rest of the citation. If the named person is the editor or translator, etc., follow the hyphens with a comma and the appropriate abbreviation (for example, ed.).


Edited Works:

Work in an Anthology or Collection:
To cite a previously published scholarly article appearing in a collection, give the complete data for the original source, then add “Rpt. In” (Reprinted in), the title of the collection and the publication information.

Editions:
When using an edition other then the first, the edition entry comes after the title of the book.

Anonymous Book or Author:

Translations:

Article in a Reference Book:
When citing widely used reference books you need only include the edition, the year of publication and the medium of publication.
When citing less familiar reference works, give the full publication information.

Print Periodical Articles (magazines, journals, newspapers, etc.)

Newspaper Article:

Magazine Article:

Journal Article:
Reviews:

Film or Video:

Electronic Publications (websites, online scholarly journal, databases)

A Work Found Only on the Web:

A Work Found on the Web and available in Print:

An Online-Only Scholarly Journal:

A Work Found in an Online Database: