

Writing Center

MLA Documentation

Writing in MLA Style

- Times New Roman 12 font
- Double spaced
- Header on page: Last name and page number
- 1 inch margins
- Refer to Purdue Owl MLA sample paper for the page format

MLA Format

Agneli 1

Elizabeth L. Angeli

Professor Patricia Sullivan

English 102

12 February 2020

Your Essay Title with All Main Words Capitalized

Indent and begin writing.....

In-text Citations:

- Refers to giving authors/sources credit for information you have borrowed
- Paraphrases, direct quotations, and statistics must be cited
- **Paraphrases:** the author's ideas put into your own words
- **Quotations:** the author's/source's exact words, placed in quotes
- **Statistics:** percentages or other numbers

There is no need to remember everything!

- Refer to the Purdue OWL MLA web site
- Search: Purdue OWL Site Map for a list of academic writing related topics
- Make an appointment with the Writing Center

In-text Citations: one author

- Author and page number of the quotation or paraphrase must appear in the text

Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).

Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).

Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).

In-text citations: 2 authors

The authors claim that surface reading looks at what is “evident, perceptible, apprehensible in texts” (Best and Marcus 9).

Best and Marcus stated that surface reading looks at what is “evident, perceptible, apprehensible in texts” (9).

In-text citations: 3 or more authors

The authors claim that one cause of obesity in the United States is government-funded farm subsidies (Franck et al. 327).

According to Franck et al. one cause of obesity in the United States is government-funded farm subsidies (377).

Citing an Article on a Web Site (unauthored)

- In-text Citation:

According to the SCWA “New York State’s standards are among the most stringent in the country” (“Conserving Water” para. 1).

- Works Cited entry:

“Conserving Water Also Saves Money for Long Island Homeowners.” *Suffolk County Water Authority*, 2019.

<https://www.scwa.com/waterquality/environment/water-efficiency/>

Sample Works Cited Page

Works Cited

“Conserving Water Also Saves Money for Long Island Homeowners.” *Suffolk County Water Authority*,” 2019.

<https://www.scwa.com/water-quality/environment/water-efficiency/>

Giles, John and Ann T. Lana. *The American Agricultural Press, 1819-1860*. Columbia UP, 1941.

Langhamer, Clare. “Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth England.” *Historical Journal*, vol. 50,

no. 1, 2007, pp. 173-96. *ProQuest*, doi: 10.2-095-0934-95-395-39.

Introduce Quotations (do not start a sentence with a quotation)

- According to Waller ...
- Waller demonstrated ...
 - Emphasized, illustrated, noted, stated (stated is only used with direct quotations)
- According to the American Management Association ...

Integrating Evidence (Quotations and Paraphrases)

Sandwich Your Quotations!

Introduce your quotation or paraphrase
According to ... Author stated ...

Place your Quotation or paraphrase here

Provide analysis here
In other words... Consequently...

Paragraph Structure

Topic sentences, or main idea sentences, begin each paragraph. After the topic sentence, the following represents a basic structure for a paragraph. Your paragraph may look different, but be sure to cite all evidence and always explain how evidence is relevant to the main idea of the paragraph.

- Evidence (paraphrase, statistic, quotation). Cite your evidence.
- Your interpretation, analysis. Explain how the evidence supports your topic sentence, thesis. (Use transition words to show your voice/your analysis of the evidence.)
- Evidence
- Analysis

Transition words let the reader know you are providing analysis or explanation after the evidence (paraphrase or quotation).

Transition words and phrases: In other words, therefore, for example, thus, consequently, however