

MLA Style (9th edition---2021)

A handout from the Writing Lab (College of Charleston)

The new 9th edition (2021) of the *MLA Handbook* provides an overarching template for *all* citations with core elements, in a specific order, based on the different requirements for particular sources.

Here are the **core elements** (Please note the punctuation after each one.):

The Core Elements
1. Author.
2. Title of source.
3. Title of container,
4. Contributor,
5. Version,
6. Number,
7. Publisher,
8. Publication date,
9. Location.

What do “element,” “container,” “contributor,” and “location” mean?

Element: The various components that may exist in any citation: Authors, Other Contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication Date, and Location.

Container: refers to larger works (like a database, newspaper, or blog) that contain smaller works (like individual articles). These smaller works are “nested” within the larger work.

Contributor: refers to people, groups, or organizations that contribute to a work but are not its primary creators (translators, editors, film directors, an organization that uploads a video).

Location: does *not* refer to *place of publication*. This term refers to page numbers, URLs, permalinks, any digital object identifiers (DOIs), or even a place where the work was viewed (a play in New York City) or heard (concert location).

WHAT IS “PLAGIARISM”?

What is plagiarism?

According to the *MLA Handbook*, plagiarism is the act of “presenting another person’s ideas, works, or entire work as your own” (96-97). Thus, the most logical way to avoid plagiarism is to give the author credit for the information cited in your paper. Give credit regardless of whether or not you decide to summarize, paraphrase, or copy directly—the three ways to use your sources. Be sure to have a balance between quotations and paraphrases.

The Three Ways to Use Sources

1. Summarize---give a general overview in your own words of the main point of the entire source.
2. Paraphrase—explain specifics from a particular paragraph or section of the source in your own words. When paraphrasing, try to avoid simply following the structure of the original source and then using a synonym for each word in the original. You should put the entire idea that the sentence or paragraph gets across in your own words. If you cannot do so effectively, it is best to quote directly from your source.
3. Directly quote from your source—copy word for word, punctuation mark for punctuation mark, etc. from the source.

When you begin writing your paper, you will have to be selective in choosing your material, and you will have to give credit to the source of the material—whether summarized, paraphrased, or quoted. Giving credit *in the text* of your paper is called documentation.

WHAT IS “DOCUMENTATION”?

To be an honest and responsible researcher, provide parenthetical references (also known as in-text citations) in the text of your paper when you use any idea or quotation from a source. What follows is a list of the primary steps to document materials using the MLA. These steps reflect the guidelines in *MLA Handbook* (9th edition) published in 2021.

How often do I have to give parenthetical references?

Credit must be given when you quote directly from a source and place the sentence or phrase in quotation marks. Technically, you own each word which you do not put in quotation marks. Thus, in addition to using parenthetical references after a direct quotation, you must give credit to your source each time your sentence expresses an idea that is not your own.

EXCEPTION: When you elaborate on the ideas in one source for several sentences, you need not have a page number in parenthesis at the end of each sentence—especially if the context makes it clear that all of the information came from the same source or even the same page. In this case, place a page number in parenthesis at the end of a sentence in which you first mention the material you are paraphrasing or summarizing. If the rest of the material is on the same page and the reader knows that all the information within the paragraph came from the same source,

you will need only one more parenthetical reference to the source; this reference appears at the end of the last sentence where you give information from this source.

Example

An analysis of the three ways of looking at a blackbird can be found in a study by Erin Gray. First, there is the most obvious: as a bird which is black (Gray 22). Second, the same critic claims, the bird can be seen as a messenger. Third, there is the association of the bird with ancient mythology, including the connection with the demon lover (Gray 22).

Journal vs. Magazine: What's the difference?

A journal is a *scholarly* periodical, such as *Afro-American Literary Studies*. A magazine is a popular periodical, such as *Time* or *Newsweek*.

There are four ways to give credit to a book, article, or essay in the body of your paper.

1. **Parenthetical citation (surname—last name—only)** At the end of your sentence, place in parenthesis the last name of the author, followed by the page number. **Example:** Studies have shown that the number of unwanted pregnancies has quadrupled in the last decade (Simon 133).
2. **Citation inside your prose.** Name your source's author in your sentence. In this case, put the page number in parenthesis. **Example:** Simon indicates that many studies have shown the number of teenage pregnancies has quadrupled in the last decade (133).
3. **If you have more than one source by the same author,** you will have to abbreviate the title of the source in your parenthetical citation. For books or articles, use the first key/significant word(s) in the title—that is, do not use an article (“a,” “an,” or “the”) or a preposition (“in,” “to,” etc.) as part of your abbreviation. All words are considered key except articles and prepositions. The complete title of the book or article will be found only in the List of Works Cited. **Example:** The character Sethe notes, “Places, places are still there. If a house burns down, it’s gone, but the place—the picture of it—stays” (Morrison, *Beloved* 35).

The Works Cited for the above has two Morrison works, but using *Beloved* in the parentheses shows which was the source for your paper’s quotation.

4. If you have two authors with the same last name, help your reader distinguish between them. The easiest solution is to use the first initial of each author and follow it by a period. If the names of both authors begin with the same letter, write out the full name of each author whenever you cite that person's work. **Example:** Reading is “just half of literacy. The other half is writing” (N. Baron 194). One might even suggest that reading is never complete without writing.

The Works Cited for the above shows there are two writers named Baron, but using “N, Baron” in your paper helps readers see which scholar is being quoted:

Baron, Jaimie. *Reuse, Misuse, Abuse: The Ethics of Audiovisual Appropriation in the Digital Era*. Rutgers UP, 2020.

Baron, Naomi S. "Redefining Reading: The Impact of Digital Communication Media." *PMLA*, vol. 128, no. 1, Jan. 2013, pp. 193-200.

NOTE: Occasionally, you may want to use the ideas of more than one source in a particular sentence. If you are using three or four different sources and wish to put information from all of them in the same sentence, write the last name of each author and the page number and separate them with semicolons.

Example: Of the reasons for choosing abortion, the most frequently cited is unwanted pregnancy (Smith 125; Goodwin 66; James 89).

If you use information from more than three or four sources in one sentence, you are probably not writing as effectively as you should.

How do I cite digital sources in the body of my paper?

If your Works Cited entry looks like this:

Stark, Susan. "His Naked Villainy: Sir Ian McKellen Is No Garden-Variety Richard III."

Detroit News, 20 Jan. 1996, www.detnews.com/menu/Stories/32720.htm.

the parenthetical reference in the body of the paper looks like this:

Fueled by a renewed interest in Shakespeare resulting from Kenneth Branagh's success in bringing the playwright to the big screen (Stark), the film sparked a controversy concerning Loncraine's choice of setting.

Here are more guidelines for citing electronic sources in the body of your paper:

In parenthetical references, works from the World Wide Web are cited just like printed works—that is, if your source has no author, then you cite the title of the work in your parenthetical reference. If your source lacks numbering, omit numbers from your parenthetical references. If your source includes section numbering (such as numbering of paragraphs), give the relevant number preceded by the label par. or pars., citing the relevant numbers. Give the appropriate abbreviation before the numbers. If it uses sections or chapters, use sec. or secs. Or chs. or chs.

Example: (Moulthrop pars. 19-20). (For a document on the Web, the page numbers of a printout should normally *not* be cited, because the pagination may vary in different printouts.)

HOW DO YOU DOCUMENT IN-TEXT?

Book or Article with One Author

The number of unwanted pregnancies has quadrupled in the last decade (Simon 133).

Book or Article with Two Authors

Working primarily with a collaborator, McClintcock discovered that many were wrong about chromosomes and genes (Vare and Hoffman 236).

Book with Three or More Authors

The three most important factors are personality, attitude, and progress (Jameson et al. 33).

NOTE: You will put only the last name of the first author listed on the title page of a book or article.

Two Sources Written by the SAME Author

The three most important factors are personality, attitude, and progress (Jameson, *Teaching* 22).

Also contributing to teaching excellence is expertise in the subject area (Jameson, “Classroom” 67).

In the above examples, the first key/significant word in the title is listed.

Two or More Sources by Authors with the SAME Last Name:

Teaching for non-native speakers can be achieved best through avoiding subjects on which there is considerable disagreement from culture to culture (J. Garcia 45).

The most controversial subjects are religion and politics, but even such seemingly harmless issues like the roles of men and women have been found to cause unnecessary conflict in the classroom (M. Garcia 86).

Indirect Sources

Whenever possible, take material from the original source, not a secondhand one. Sometimes, however, only an indirect source is available. If what you quote or paraphrase is itself a quotation, put the abbreviation qtd. in (“quoted in”) before the indirect source you cite in your parenthetical reference.

Example: As Arthur Miller says, “When somebody is destroyed, everybody finally contributes to it, but in Willy’s case, the end product would be virtually the same” (qtd. in Martin and Meyer 375).

Months

For names of months longer than four letters, abbreviate in the Works Cited: Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

Forward Slash

When a source presents multiple pieces of information for a single element in the entry—for instance, more than one publisher is named— separate them with a forward slash.

Tomlinson, Janis A., editor. *Goya: Images of Women*. National Gallery of Art / Yale UP, 2002.

WHAT IS THE “WORKS CITED”?

For all term papers, PROVIDE a Works Cited page—that is, a list of the sources used in *writing* the paper. In compiling your list, please be sure that everything in the list of Works Cited is mentioned in the body of the paper. More important, remember to include an entry for every source used in your paper.

The sources are arranged in alphabetical order according to the last name of the author. The last name should be listed first in each entry; it should be followed by a comma and the author's first name. When there is no author given, the entry is alphabetized according to the first word of the title, not counting articles (“a,” “an,” and “the”). If the particular source requires more than one line to give readers all the information required, indent by five spaces (or one half-inch on the computer) the second and subsequent lines. Please also remember to double space between each line and between entries.

HOW TO DO YOUR WORKS CITED

Books

One Author

Blocker, Dan. *The Western Hero and Television in the 1960's*. Prentice, 1972.

Two Authors

Dorris, Michael, and Louise Erdrich. *The Crown of Columbus*. HarperCollins Publishers, 1999.

[Note: You should list the authors in the order in which they are named on the title page.]

Three or More Authors

Pike, Joseph, et al. *Teaching Shakespeare in the Two-Year College*. Random, 1985.

[Note: When a source has three or more authors, only the first one shown in the source is normally given. And et. al is Latin for “and others”]

Two or More Books by the Same Author

Boroff, Marie. *Language and the Poet: Verbal Artistry in Frost, Stevens, and Moore*. U of Chicago P, 1979.

---. “Sound Symbolism as Drama in the Poetry of Robert Frost.” *PMLA*, vol. 107, no. 1, Jan. 1992, pp. 131-44. *JSTOR*, <https://doi.org/10.2307/462806>.

NOTE: *Normally, the 9th edition of *MLA* does not tell place of publication, unless the work was published before 1900 or the publishers have offices in more than one country (See p. 173 section 5.67 of *MLA Handbook*, 9th edition, 2021.)

Young, Brigham. *The Necessity for Bigamy*. Salt Lake City, Mormon, 1876.

---. *Mormonism and the Call of God*. Salt Lake City, Mormon, 1870.

Book with an Editor (or Editors)

McMichael, George M., editor. *Concise Anthology of American Literature*. Macmillan, 1985.

Baron, Sabrina Alcorn, et al., editors. *Agents of Change*. U of Massachusetts P / Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 2007.

[Note: You use the phrase “et al., editors.” when there are three or more editors.]

[Note: This entry has two publishers; hence, it uses the forward slash /.]

Book with an Author and an Editor

Woolf, Virginia. *A Writer's Diary*. Edited by Leonard Woolf, Harcourt, 1954.

E-book

O'Connor, Patricia. *Woe is I: The Grammarphobe's Guide to Better English in Plain English*. E-book ed., Riverhead Books, 2009.

E-book from College of Charleston Library Database Published on a Website

Gikandi, Simon. *Ngugi wa Thion'o*. Cambridge UP, 2000. *ACLS Humanities E-book*,
hdl.handle.net/2027/heb.07588.0001.001.

Anthology (with an Editor)

Kennedy, X. J., editor. *The Ways to Poetry: Several Approaches*. Little, 1984.

Anthology (a Chapter in an Edited Book)

Woolf, Virginia. “The New Dress.” *Women & Fiction: Stories by and About Women*, edited by Susan Cahill, New American Library, 1975, pp. 67-80.

Special note: In an entry for an anthology, the play's title is italicized, not underlined.

Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, edited by Hardin Craig and David Bevington, revised ed., Scott, Foresman, 1973, pp. 903-42.

Anthology: Using Two or More Short Works from One Anthology or Collection

Create an entry for the anthology as a whole and entries for each short work cited in your paper. The entries for the short works should contain **ONLY** the **author, title of the selection, editor, and page numbers**. Each entry should be placed in proper alphabetical order, of course.

Agee, James. “Knoxville: Summer of 1915.” Oates and Atwan, pp. 171-75.

Oates, Joyce Carol, and Robert Atwan, editors. *The Best American Essays of the Century*. Houghton Mifflin, 2000.

A Part of an Online Book

Poe, Edgar Allan. "The Masque of the Red Death." *The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe*, edited by James A. Harrison, vol. 4, Thomas Y. Crowell, 1902, pp. 250-58. *HathiTrust Digital Library*, hdl.handle.net/2027/coo.31924079574368.

Edition Other than the First

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Works of Chaucer*. Edited by Jay G. Helterman, 3rd ed., Houghton, 1989.

Translation

Murakami, Haruki. *A Wild Sheep Chase*. Translated by Alfred Birnbaum, Vintage Books, 1989.

Scripture (The Bible or other Religious Texts)

The New Jerusalem Bible. Henry Wansborough, general editor, Doubleday, 1985.

A Multivolume Work

Stark, Freya. *Letters*. Edited by Lucy Moorehead, Compton Press, 1974-82. 8 vols. [when you are citing all the volumes]

Stark, Freya. *Letters*. Edited by Lucy Moorehead, vol. 5, Compton Press, 1978. 8 vols. [when you used only one volume.]

Articles

Article in a Scholarly Journal

Bird, Harry. "Some Aspects of the Prejudice in the Roman World." *University of Windsor Review*, vol. 10, no. 1, 1975, pp. 64-75.

Article from an Online Journal/Periodical/Scholarly Journal

Cáceres, Sigfrido Burgos. "Towards Concert in Africa: Seeking Progress and Power through Cohesion and Unity." *African Studies Quarterly*, vol. 12, no. 4, Fall 2011, pp. 59-73, asq.africa.ufl.edu/files/Caceres-Vol12Is4.pdf.

[Note: the above example was originally published in print. If your item was originally published online, do NOT use page numbers.]

Article on a Web Site

Enzinna, Wes. "Syria's Unknown Revolution." *Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting*, 24 Nov.

2015, pulitzercenter.org/projects/middle-east-syria-enzinna-war-rojava.

ERIC (article retrieved)

Gonzalez, Monica Marie. "Preparing Teacher Candidates for the Instruction of English Language

Learners." *Networks: An Online Journal for Teacher Research*, vol. 18, no. 2, fall 2016.

ERIC, eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1152320.

EBSCOhost (article retrieved)

Da'vila, Denise, et al. "The Latinx Family: Learning y *La Literatura* at the Library." *Bilingual*

Review / La revista bilingu'e, vol. 33, no. 5, May 2017, pp. 33-49, *EBSCOhost*,

search.ebscohost.com.

JSTOR (article retrieved)

Goldman, Anne. "Questions of Transport: Reading Primo Levi Reading Dante." *The Georgia*

Review, vol. 64, no. 1, spring 2010, pp. 69-88. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/41403188.

Signed Article in a Reference Work

Robinson, J. Bradford. "Scat Singing." *The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz*, edited by Barry

Kernfield, vol. 3, London, Macmillan, 2002, p. 269.

[Note: The city of publication appears in this sample because Macmillan publishes in different countries so there may be differences in spelling and vocabulary.]

Encyclopedia Article Online

"Fresco." *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*, 17 Apr. 2011, www.britannica.com/art/fresco-

painting.

Previously Published Scholarly Article in a Collection

Spilka, Mark. "Of George and Lennie and Curley's Wife: Sweet Violence in Steinbeck's Eden."

Contemporary Literary Criticism, vol. 21, Gale, 1992, p. 381. Originally published in

Modern Fiction Studies, vol. 20, no. 2, 1974, pp. 169-79.

Article from a Weekly or Biweekly Periodical

Greiner, Donald R. "Onward and Upward: A New Novel by John Updike." *Time*, 15 Oct. 1988, pp. 33-36.

Daily Newspaper (Signed Article)

Goodwin, Alice. "The Role of Manner in the Teaching of English." *The State* [Columbia], 22 July 1987, p. 33.

[Note: If the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name. For nationally published newspapers, this is not necessary.]

Daily Newspaper (Unsigned Article)

"Women and Men in Despair: Teaching English at the College of Charleston." *The State* [Columbia], 22 July 1990, pp. 45+.

[Note: The + indicates that the article appears on nonconsecutive pages.]

"Women and Men in Despair: Teaching English at the College of Charleston." *The State* [Columbia], 22 July 1990, sec. 1: 45+.

[Note: If the newspaper is divided into sections, you cite it like the above example.]

Online Newspaper Article

Wente, Margaret. "In the Best Interests of the Child." *The Globe and Mail*, 6 Apr. 2009, www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/in-the-best-interests-of-the-child/article20414097.

Editorial

Editorial Board. "How to Tell Truth from Fiction in the Age of Fake News." *Chicago Tribune*, 21. Nov. 2016, www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-fake-news-facebook-edit-1120-md-20161118-story.html.

Letter to the Editor

Schlesinger, Arthur, Jr. Letter. *The New York Review of Books*, 8 Apr. 2004, p. 84. *Newsweek*, 7 Nov. 1988, pp. 120-21.

Dictionary Entry

“Content, *N.* (1).” *Merriam-Webster*, 2020, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/content.

“Content, *N.* (4).” *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed., Merriam-Webster, 2003, p. 269.

[Note: If you are citing a specific definition among several, tell the number. See *MLA Handbook* p. 328 for models.]

[Note: Page numbers are used because the entries of the source are arranged alphabetically. If your source is from online, do NOT use page numbers.]

Besides books and articles, other types of sources

Government Publication

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Keep the Beat Recipes: Deliciously Healthy Dinners*. National Institutes of Health, Oct. 2009, healthyeating.nhlbi.nih.gov/pdfs/Dinners_Cookbook_508-compliant.pdf.

Government Publication (online)

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Child Nutrition Programs. *Eligibility Manual for School Meals: Determining and Verifying Eligibility. National School Lunch Program*, July 2015, www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/cn/SP40_CACFP18_SFSP20-2015a1.pdf.

Lecture

Ford, Jane. Lecture. Introduction to the History of Art, 4 Apr. 2016, Bates College.

Interview (Unpublished)

Salter, Margaret. Interview. Conducted by Suan Lang, 22 Oct. 2007.

Interview (through E-mail)

Sternberg, Rachel. E-mail interview with the author, 7 Jan. 2001.

Pamphlet or Brochure

Washington, DC. Trip Builder, 2000. Brochure.

Comic Book or Graphic Narrative

Superman: Birthright. By Marc Waid, illustrated by Leinil Francis Yu, inked by Gerry

Alanguilan, colored by Dave McCaig, DC Comics, 2005.

Advertisement (Filmed)

“Air Canada: We’re in the Business of You.” *YouTube*, uploaded by Air Canada, 8 Apr. 2019,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=GE9AFpsg7H8.

Advertisement (Print)

Advertisement for Upton Tea Imports. *Smithsonian*, Oct. 2018, p. 84.

YouTube Video

“*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*: Unaired Pilot 1996.” *YouTube*, uploaded by Brian Stowe, 28 Jan.
2012, www.youtube.com/watch?v=WR3J-V7qxxW.

DVD

“Hush.” 1999. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Complete Fourth Season*, created by Joss Whedon,
episode 10, Mutant Enemy / Twentieth Century Fox, 2003, disc 3. DVD.

[Note: 1999 is the year of the long-running series. If you are writing about features of that episode found on the season’s DVD set, your entry will be about the discs (See the disc number.) and, thus, will include the date of their release (2003), as shown in the above example.]

T.V. (Viewed as Broadcast)

“Hush.” *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, created by Joss Whedon, season 4, episode 10, Mutant Enemy
/ WB Television Network, 14 Dec. 1999.

T. V. (Viewed online)

“I, Borg.” *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, season 5, episode 23, Paramount Pictures, 1992.
Netflix, www.netflix.com.

T. V. (Viewed as an app)

“New Normal.” Directed by Dan Attias. *Homeland*, season 5, episode 10, Showtime, 24 July
2016, *Amazon Prime Video* app.

Video Game

Angry Birds. Version 7.0.0, Rovio Entertainment, 10 Dec. 2016.

Digital Library

Poe, Edgar Allan. “The Masque of the Red Death.” *The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe*,
edited by James A. Harrison, vol. 4, Thomas Y. Crowell, 1902, pp. 250-58. *HathiTrust*

Digital Library, hdl.handle.net/2027/coo.31924079574368.

Work of Art (viewed in person)

Vermeer, Johannes. *The Astronomer*. 1668, Louvre Museum, Paris.

[Note: Place date of the creation of the artwork after the title. Treat the physical location (museum, city) of the artwork as its location.]

Work of Art (viewed online)

Bearden, Romare. *The Train*. 1975. MOMA, www.moma.org/collection/works/65232?locale=en.

Photo (online)

Sheldon, Natasha. Photograph of *The Muleteer*. "Human Remains in Pompeii: The Body Casts,"

by Sheldon, 23 Mar. 2014. *Decoded Past*, decodedpast.com/human-remains-pompeii-body-casts/7532.

Stage Play

Shaw, George Bernard. *Heartbreak House*. Directed by Robin Lefevre, Roundabout Theatre

Company, 11 Oct. 2006, American Airlines Theatre, New York City.

Music (Concert)

Beyoncé. *The Formation World Tour*. 14 May 2016, Rose Bowl, Los Angeles.

Music (Recording, Song, or Other Piece of Music)

Beyoncé. "Pretty Hurts." *Beyoncé*, Parkwood Entertainment, 2013,

www.beyonce.com/album/beyonce/?media_view=songs. Transcript of lyrics.

Speeches

Atwood, Margaret. "Silencing the Scream." Boundaries of the Imagination Forum. MLA

Annual Convention, 29 Dec. 1993, Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Entire Web Site

Bauch, Nicholas. *Enchanting the Desert: A Pattern Language for the Production of Space*.

Stanford UP, 2016, www.enchantingthedesert.com/home/.

E-Mail (to the author)

Pierson, Collette. E-mail to the author. 1 June 2019.

Blog

Hays, Terrence. "The Wicked Candor of Wanda Coleman." *The Paris Review*, 12 June 2020,

www.theparisreview.org/blog/2020/06/12/the-wicked-candor-of-wanda-coleman/. The Daily.

Discussion List

Grooms, Russell W. Comment on “FW: Chicago Style Citation Question” thread. *Infolit*, 6 Sept. 2016, 20:02:16, lists.ala.org/sympa/arc/infolit/2016-09/msg00005.html.

Tweets

Chaucer Doth Tweet [[@LeVostreGC](https://twitter.com/LeVostreGC)]. “A daye without anachronism ys lyke Emily Dickinson without her lightsaber.” *Twitter*, 7 April 2018, twitter.com/LeVostreGC/status/982829987286827009.

E-Reserve

Barbour, Brian M. “The Great Gatsby and the American Past.” *The Southern Review*, vol. 9, 1973, pp. 288-99. *

[Note: E-reserve articles are cited as any scholarly journal article, since that is what they were previously.]

[*Note: The *MLA Handbook* suggests including URL’s for an E-reserve from your instructor, so ask your professor about including the URL.]

Podcast

Li, Yiyun. “On the Street Where You live.” Narrated by Li. *The Writer’s Voice: Fiction from the Magazine*, hosted by Deborah Treisman, 3 Jan. 2017. *The New Yorker*, www.newyorker.com/podcast/the-athours-voice/yiyun-li-reads-on-the-street-where-you-live.

Facebook

World Wildlife Fun. “Five Things to Know on Shark Awareness Day.” *Facebook*, 14 July 2020, www.facebook.com/worldwildlifefund/videos/745925785979440.

Instagram

Thomas, Angie. Photo of *The Hate U Give* cover. *Instagram*, 4 Dec. 2018, www.instagram.com/p/Bq_PaXKggPw/.

TED Talk

Allende, Isabel. “Tales of Passion.” *TED*, Mar. 2007,

www.ted.com/talks/isabel_allende_tells_tales_of_passion?language=en.

General Advice for Citing Online Sources
(Access Dates? DOI's? Omitting http: or https:?
Shortening URL's?)

Access Dates? According to the *MLA Handbook*, “[a]n access date for an online work should generally be provided if the work lacks a publication date or if you suspect that the work has been altered or removed” (211).

Bali, Karan. “Kisore Kumarr.” *Upperstall.com*, upperstall.com/profile/Kishore-kumarr.

Accessed 2 Mar. 2016.

DOI'S? or URL's? For sources accessed online, provide DOIs, when given. If the DOI is not available, use a permalink, or URL.

---DOI is preferred.

Chan, Evans. “Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema.” *Postmodern Culture*, vol. 10. No. 3, 3

May 2000. *Project Muse*, doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021.

If the DOI is not found in the search record, be sure to check the pdf for a DOI.

---If no DOI, use permalink (often called “stable” links).

Goldman, Anne. “Questions of Transport: Reading Primo Levi Reading Dante.” *The Georgia*

Review, vol. 64, no. 1, 2010, pp. 69-88. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/41403188.

---If no permalink, use full URL (without *http* or *https://*) from your browser.

Omit https// or http//? According to *MLA Handbook*, you can omit UNLESS you want to hyperlink the item so readers can go directly to the item (188 and 195). BUT FOLLOW THE PREFERENCES OF YOUR INSTRUCTOR OR INSTITUTION.

Shorten URL's? According to the *MLA Handbook*, you can shorten. “If a URL runs more than three full lines or is longer than the rest of the entry, truncate [shorten] it. When truncating, always retain at least the host” (196). In the following, the host is style.mla.org:

<https://style.mla.org/plagiarism-and-academic-dishonesty/>.

BUT FOLLOW THE PREFERENCES OF YOUR INSTRUCTOR OR INSTITUTION.

For an example of shortening the URL, see p. 196 in the *MLA Handbook*.

Revised by BDD/MC/DS/TM/CB Fall 2021