

In-Text Citations & MLA

By the end of this lesson you will know how to create an in-text citation & how to format a paper using MLA.

Formatting a Paper

- Times New Roman 12 point font
- Only print on one side of the paper.
- Margins:
 - Your margins on all pages of your paper should be 1 inch.
 - Use the Page Setup feature under File to change these.

Formatting a Paper

- Spacing:
 - Double space throughout the paper.
 - Use the paragraph feature that you can find by right clicking in the document. Under the line spacing drop down box, click double.
 - DO NOT try to hit enter twice at the end of every line to double space. It's more trouble than it's worth!

Formatting a Paper

- Heading and Title:

- You do not need a title page in MLA format.
- You DO need to include the following...

- Your Name
- Teacher
- Class/Period
- Date
- Header - Last name and page #
- Title

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English 620

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Sylvia Plath and the Goth Tradition

In studying the influence of Sylvia Plath's poetry on modern Gothic tradition, one must understand the nature of pop culture and its influence

Sources

- General Rules:

- In a perfect world, no more than 25% of your paper should be quotations.
- Paraphrase as much as you can.
- Use direct quotations when citing numerical data such as statistics.
- Use an author's words if they capture a point exactly.

Sources

- When to put the source in your paper:
 - A direct quote
 - A statistic
 - An idea that is not your own
 - Someone else's opinion
 - Concrete facts, not considered “common knowledge”
 - Knowledge not considered “common”

Paraphrasing and Summarizing

- Even if you paraphrase or summarize,
**YOU
STILL MUST
ACKNOWLEDGE
YOUR SOURCE!!**



Signal Phrases in MLA

● Model Signal Phrases:

- “In the words of researchers Long and McKenzie...”
- “As Paul Rudnick has noted...”
- “Melinda Stuart, mother of a drunk driver, points out...”
- “..., writes Michelle Moore,...”

Verbs in Signal Phrases:

acknowledges	admits
agrees	asserts
believes	claims
comments	confirms
contends	declares
denies	disputes
emphasizes	endorses
grants	illustrates
implies	notes
observes	points out
reasons	refutes
suggests	writes

Complete list: Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. 5th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003. p. 336.

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- What is it??
 - A system in which you give your source in parenthesis immediately after you give the information.
 - Four Common Citations:
 - Author and page number
 - Title and page number
 - Page number only
 - Secondhand quotations
 - **The first word of your citation MUST match the corresponding entry on your Works Cited page.**

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- Author and Page Number
(Keeling 125)
 - Notice there is no “p” and no comma.
(Keeling, p 125)→ INCORRECT!!!
 - The struggle for identity is common during puberty (Keeling 125).

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- Title and Page Number

Her distinctive writing style adds to her mystique (“Plath” 19).

- Often, articles, editorials, pamphlets, and other materials have no author listed; give the first *distinctive* word of the title followed by the page number.

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- Page Number Only

- If you have already mentioned the author's name, put the page number only.

Keeling states that Plath's work stand in stark contrast to other confessional poets (58).

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- Sometimes in this class you will need to use citations for poetry or line numbers in a story. You use these in place of the page number, but you must still have the authors name somewhere as well.
- When you are writing about a single work of fiction, you do not need to include the author's name each time you quote from or paraphrase the work. After you mention the author's name at the beginning of your paper, you may include just the page number in your parenthetical citations.

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

In Susan Glaspell's short story "A Jury of Her Peers," two women accompany their husbands and a county attorney to an isolated house where a farmer named John Wright has been choked to death in his bed with a rope. The chief suspect is Wright's wife, Minnie, who is in jail awaiting trial. The sheriff's wife, Mrs. Peters, has come along to gather some personal items for Minnie, and Mrs. Hale has joined her. Early in the story, Mrs. Hale sympathizes with Minnie and objects to the way the male investigators are "snoopin' round and criticizin'" her kitchen (200). In contrast, Mrs. Peters shows respect for the law, saying that the men are doing "no more than their duty" (201).

- Notice the use of page numbers in the parenthetical citation.

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

In Susan Glaspell's short story "A Jury of Her Peers," two women accompany their husbands and a county attorney to an isolated house where a farmer named John Wright has been choked to death in his bed with a rope. The chief suspect is Wright's wife, Minnie, who is in jail awaiting trial. The sheriff's wife, Mrs. Peters, has come along to gather some personal items for Minnie, and Mrs. Hale has joined her. Early in the story, Mrs. Hale sympathizes with Minnie and objects to the way the male investigators are "snoopin' round and criticizin'" her kitchen (123-124). In contrast, Mrs. Peters shows respect for the law, saying that the men are doing "no more than their duty" (145).

- You will use line numbers mainly when citing poetry but also when you write short responses to a story in class.

Parenthetical Citations or In-Text Citations

- How Often to Give Citations
 - When several facts in a row within one paragraph all come from the same page of a source. Use one citation to cover them all. Place the citation after the last bit of information.

How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing

- What is a quote??
 - Quotes are one way of adding concrete details to your paper. When you quote a text, you use the EXACT words of the writer. You do not change them in any way.
- What should a quote accomplish??
 - A quote is a way for you to illustrate your point in your writing. If it doesn't back up what you are saying, don't use it!

How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing

- Quotes should be...
 - Brief
 - Relevant to your point
 - Introduced
 - Discussed
- Reader's need to know...
 - Who is speaking
 - When or in what situation the speaker said this
 - Why this quote is important and how it fits in with your argument

How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing

- We will be using the **Claim – Quote – Commentary** method when responding to questions in class or when using quotes in research papers.
 - **Claim**, the first sentence of the response should reword the question and state a personal opinion or direct response to the question.
 - **Quote**, look at what the author said and include a detail from the text to support your answer (TEXTUAL EVIDENCE!!)
 - Suggested Sentence Starters:
 - In the text...
 - The text states...
 - According to the passage...
 - One example from the text...
 - The author states...

How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing

- **commentary** the response should end with you explaining or interpreting the significance of the evidence. One of these sentence starters may help:
 - This shows...
 - This demonstrates...
 - I believe...
 - Now I know...
 - This proves...
- **Closing statement** reminds you that a constructed response requires multiple supporting details from the author.
 - In the text...
 - The text also states...
 - According to the passage...
 - A second example from the text...
 - The author also states...

How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing

- Think of it like a sandwich. Your own words are the bread. The top piece is the introduction and the bottom is the conclusion. The items in the middle are your quoted information. Each piece of quoted information **MUST** have an introduction and an explanation.



How to Incorporate Quotes into Your Writing sandwich example!!

- **First, decide on the point you want to make.** I want to prove that the residents of Maple Street are allowing fear to turn them into a mob.
- **Now, find a quote that illustrates your point.** I am going to look at Les Goodman's words when he is being threatened by his neighbors.
- **Next, introduce your quote.** I will write:
 - As the residents of Maple Street turn on Les Goodman, he warns them that, "this thing you're starting – that should frighten you" (77).
- **Finally, discuss your quote.** My commentary might be:
 - Les Goodman makes clear that his neighbors are choosing a path that can only lead to chaos and the breakdown of their community. This point will later be echoed by the aliens.

All together now...

As the residents of Maple Street turn on Les Goodman, he warns them that, “this thing you’re starting – that should frighten you” (77). With these words, Goodman makes clear that his neighbors are choosing a path that can only lead to chaos and the breakdown of their community. This point will later be echoed by the aliens.

Use Vivid Verbs to Introduce Quotes

- Some alternatives to said or says...

- ~~All in the present tense~~

describes	assesses	admits	shows	reports
illustrates	finds	concedes	sees	complains
notes	predicts	concurs	thinks	comments
observes	insists	grants	bemoans	argues
points out	maintains	laments	condemns	states
relates	suggests	warns	supposes	speculates

In conclusion...

● ASK YOURSELF

- What is the quote really saying?
- Does my quote support my idea?
- What do I need my readers to understand?
- Have I introduced the quote...the speaker and the occasion?
- Have I discussed the quote?

Four W's Exit Ticket

- What was the focus for today's lesson?
- What is the definition for the answer to #1?
- What does it look like? Give two examples.
- Why do we use them?