New MLA Rules / Oral and Written Expression I & II

August 2009

Question: When should you cite something in a paper?

Answer: When something comes from a source other than your head, it must be cited, even if it’s put into your own words.

This includes interviews, books, magazines, newspapers, the Internet, and so forth.

To cite properly, you must give credit to the source in the paper and at the end on a separate Works Cited page. (Yes, cite your sources twice.)

If you have any questions, please ask me, review chapter 40 in your Harbrace Handbook, or refer to this handout, which was taken from the following website:

The Purdue OWL. Purdue U Writing Lab, 2009. Web. 05 August 2009.

Author

Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a “spontaneous overflow of powerful emotions” (263).

Romantic poetry is characterized by the “spontaneous overflow of powerful emotions” (Wordsworth 263).

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

No author

An anonymous Wordsworth critic once argued that his poems were too emotional (“Wordsworth Is a Loser” 100).

Two authors

Although some medical ethicists claim that cloning will lead to designer children (R. Miller 12), others note that the advantages for medical research outweigh this consideration (A. Miller 46).
Lightenor has argued that computers are not useful tools for small children (“Too Soon” 38), though he has acknowledged that early exposure to computer games does lead to better small motor skill development in a child's second and third year (“Hand-Eye Development” 17).

According to some psychologists, dreams express “profound aspects of personality” (Foulkes 184), though others disagree.

According to Foulkes’s study, dreams may express “profound aspects of personality” (184).

Is it possible that dreams may express “profound aspects of personality” (Foulkes 184)?

Cullen concludes, “Of all the things that happened there / That’s all I remember” (11-12).

Nelly Dean treats Heathcliff poorly and dehumanizes him throughout her narration:

They entirely refused to have it in bed with them, or even in their room, and I had no more sense, so, I put it on the landing of the stairs, hoping it would be gone on the morrow. By chance, or else attracted by hearing his voice, it crept to Mr. Earnshaw's door, and there he found it on quitting his chamber. Inquiries were made as to how it got there; I was obliged to confess, and in recompense for my cowardice and inhumanity was sent out of the house. (Brontë 78)

In an essay on urban legends, Jan Harold Brunvand notes that “some individuals make a point of learning every recent rumor or tale . . . and in a short time a lively exchange of details occurs” (78).
Begin your works cited list on a separate page from the text of the essay under the label Works Cited (with no quotation marks, underlining, etc.), which should be centered at the top of the page.

Make the first line of each entry in your list flush left with the margin. Subsequent lines in each entry should be indented one-half inch. This is known as a hanging indent.

Double space all entries, with no skipped spaces between entries.

Keep in mind that underlining and italics are equivalent; you should select one or the other to use throughout your essay.

Alphabetize the list of works cited by the first word in each entry (usually the author’s last name).

**Books**


**Encyclopedia**


**Two authors**


**Corporate author**

No author


Chapter within a book


Article within a collection


Essay / collection


Magazine / paper

Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Periodical Day Month Year: pages. Medium of publication.


Magazine / No author

Government document


Newspaper


Scholarly journal


Entire web sites

Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). Name of Site. Version number. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher). Medium of publication. Date of access.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example</th>
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Foo Fighters. *In Your Honor*. RCA, 2005. CD.


Works Cited (Sample)


The most basic rules for works cited entries are:

PRINT BOOKS

Last name, First name of author. Title of Book. City where published: Name of Publisher, year published. Print.

PRINT MAGAZINES

Last name, First name of author (if given). "Title of Article." Name of Magazine Date of issue: page numbers. Print.

MAGAZINE ARTICLE FROM LIBRARY ONLINE DATABASE

Last name, First name of author (if given). "Title of Article." Name of Magazine Date of issue: page numbers. Name of Database. Web. Date of Access.

WEB PAGES

These have several factors that can affect the citations; see this handout for examples.