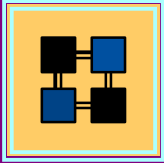




*Lemoore Union High School District*

Established 1901



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# The Research Paper: Using MLA Format

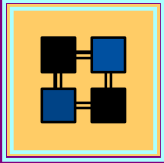
A workshop brought to you by the  
Purdue Writing Lab: Revised for LHS

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**Lemoore High School**

# Why Use MLA Format?

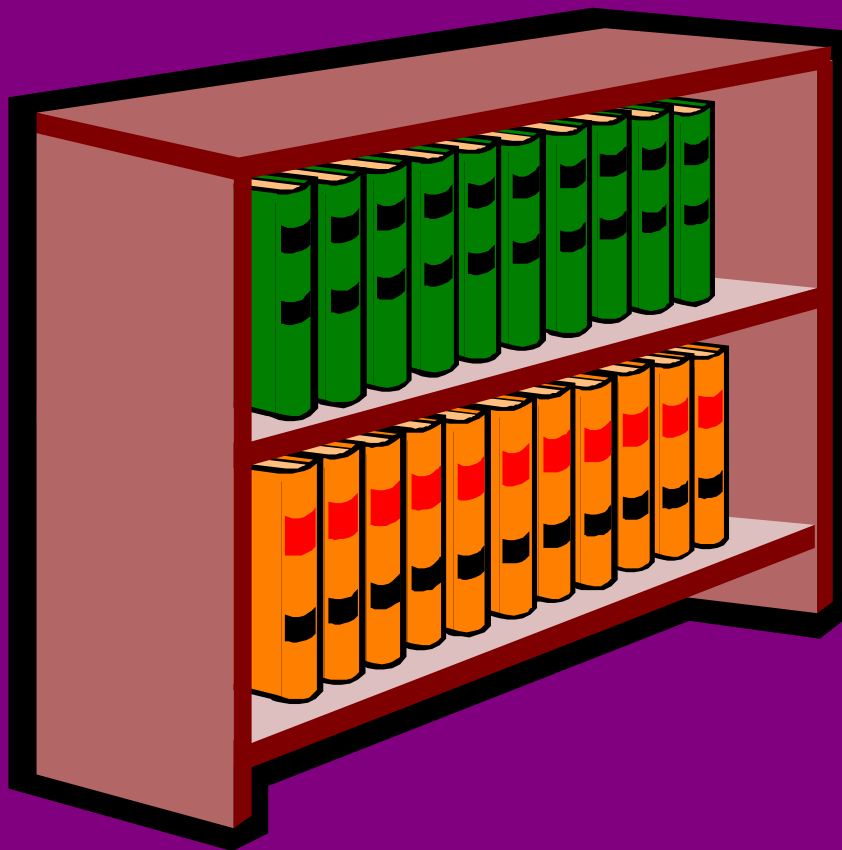
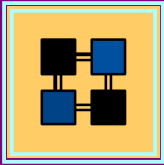
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- ▣ **Allows readers to cross-reference your sources easily if they are doing further research**
- ▣ **Provides consistent format**
- ▣ **Gives you credibility as a writer**
- ▣ **Protects yourself from plagiarism**

# Citing Your Sources

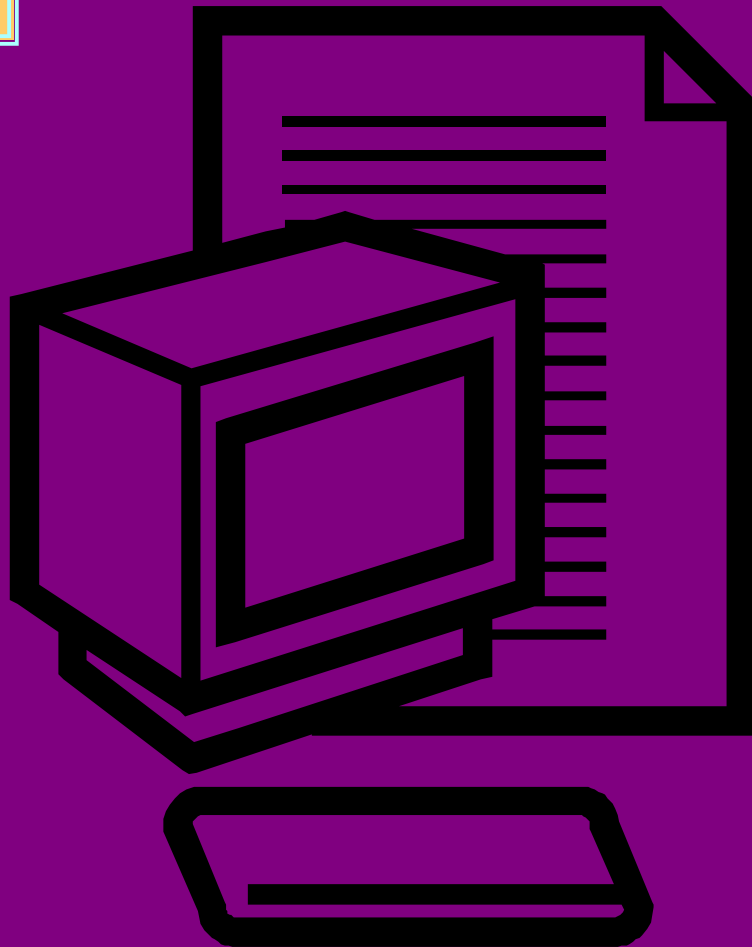
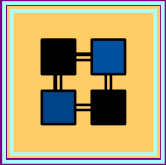
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Cross-referencing allows readers to locate the information you used in your report. Your teacher may want to check the facts, or other students may need the same information.

# Why Use a Consistent Format ?

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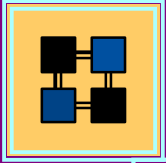


Using a consistent format helps your reader understand your arguments and the sources they're built on.

MLA stands for Modern Language Association. In college, you will use MLA or APA style (whichever your teacher assigns.)

# What should the format be?

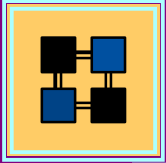
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- ❑ Research papers are double-spaced throughout. The only exception would be if you have a very long quotation (more than four lines.) The long quotation will be single spaced and indented five spaces (more about this later.)
- ❑ Heading goes on the front page, left corner.
- ❑ Pages are numbered in the upper right corner. You should use your last name and the page number. For example, Perez 12

# What about an outline?

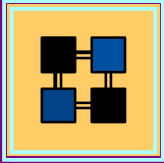
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- ❑ Each teacher may have specific requests for his/her students. MLA format may be adjusted by each teacher, so ask to be sure you are following each teacher's individual rules.
- ❑ Some teachers ask for an outline. Ask!
- ❑ Some teachers want a cover sheet, although this is not strictly MLA format. Ask!

# Why bother to follow the format?

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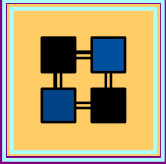
The proper use of MLA style shows the credibility and reliability of a writer.

It demonstrates you have looked up the information to prove your points.

Colleges require a specific format.

# Avoiding Plagiarism

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Proper citation of your sources in MLA style can help you avoid plagiarism, which is a serious offense.

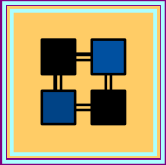
***It may result in anything from failure of the assignment to expulsion from school.***

Many colleges expel those who cheat or plagiarize.



# Where Do I Find Answers about MLA Format?

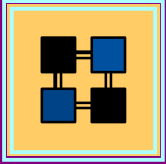
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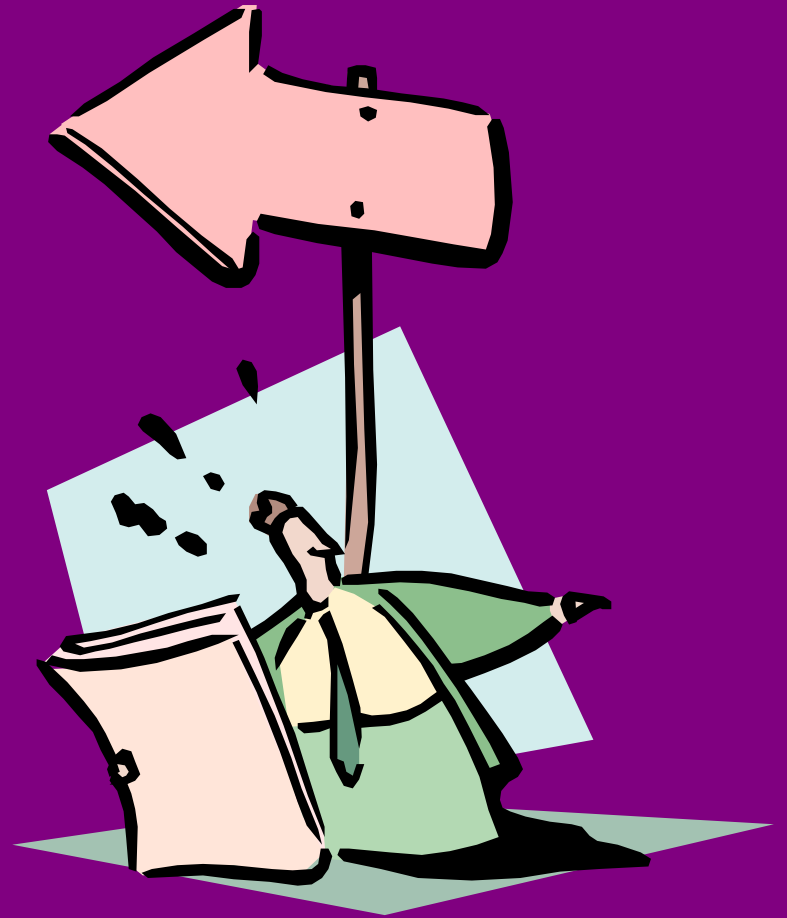
- ▣ *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 5th ed. (Check one out of the library)
- ▣ [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org)
- ▣ OWL website:  
[owl.english.purdue.edu](http://owl.english.purdue.edu)
- ▣ Check your textbook or handout from your teacher

# Citing Your Source MLA Style: Two Parts

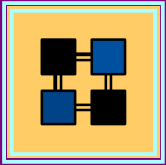
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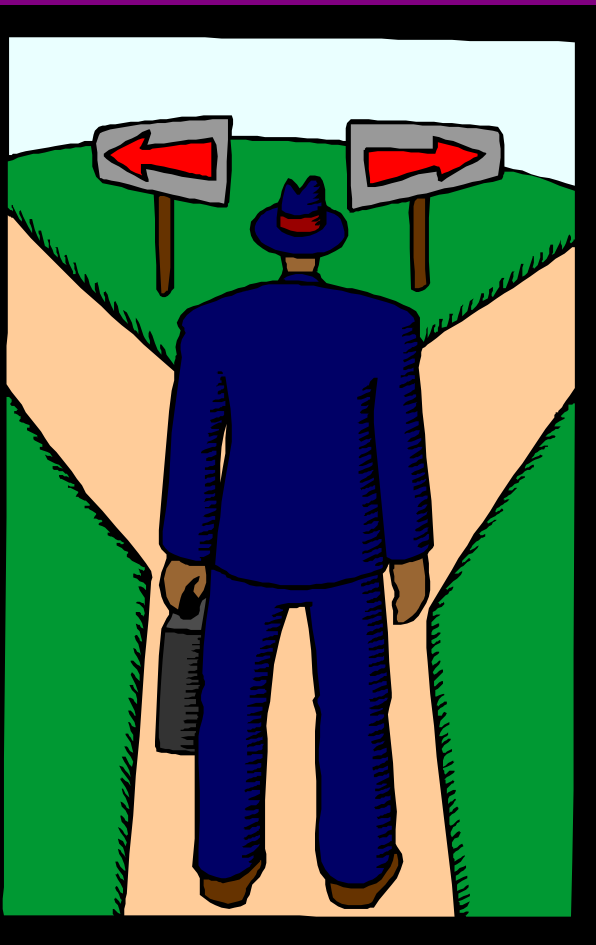
- ▣ Parenthetical Citations (*within the paper*)
- ▣ Works Cited Page (*at the end of the paper*)



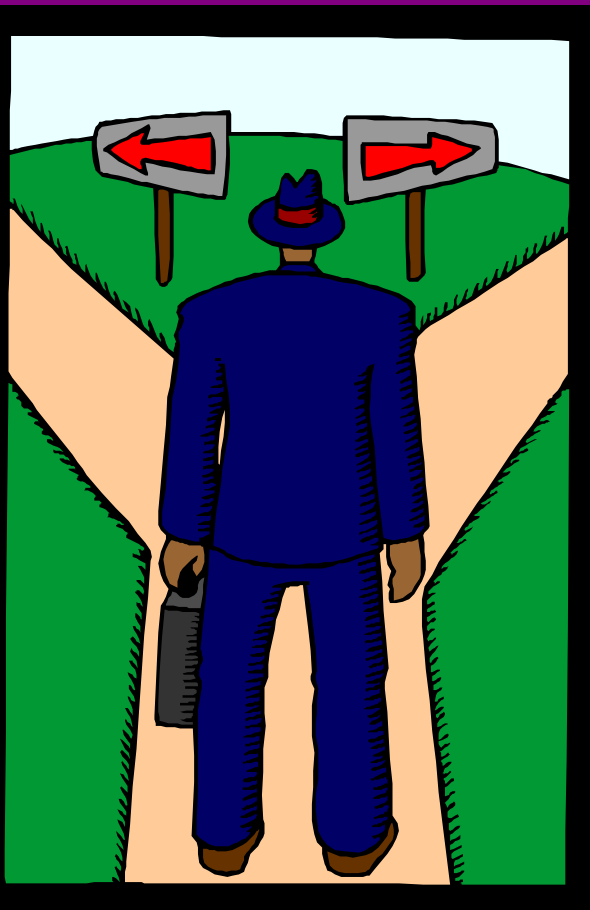
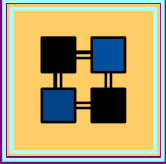
# When Should You Use Parenthetical Citations in Your Paper?



- ▣ When **quoting** any words that are not your own. If you copy without quotes, it is plagiarism!
  - ⊕ Quoting means to repeat another source word for word, using quotation marks



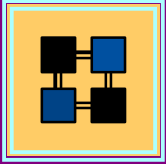
# Are there other Reasons to Use Parenthetical Citations?



- ▣ When **summarizing** facts and ideas from a source, you should cite the source
  - ⊕ Summarizing means to take ideas from a large passage of another source and condense them, using your own words
- ▣ Cite the source when **paraphrasing** a source
  - ⊕ Paraphrasing means to use the ideas from another source but change the phrasing into your own words

# Keys to Parenthetical Citations

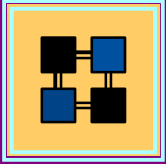
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Make it easier for your reader!

- ▣ Keep quotes short
- ▣ Give only information needed to identify the source on your Works Cited page
- ▣ You do not need to cite information that is “Common Knowledge”

# Quotes in Your Text



- ▣ Author's last name and page number(s) of quote must appear in the text

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

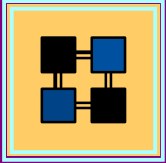
or

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



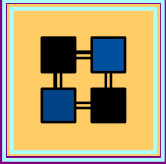
# What to remember...

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- Use the author's last name and the page number
- If possible, work the author's name into the sentence, then use only the page number
- Once you cite a source, the reader will assume all information is from that source until you quote another source

# Tricky areas of citation

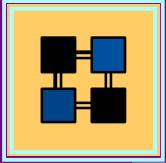


- ▣ *Sometimes more information is necessary*
- ▣ More than one author with the same last name  
(W. Wordsworth 23); (D. Wordsworth 224)
- ▣ More than one work by the same author  
(Joyce, *Portrait* 121); (Joyce, *Ulysses* 556)
- ▣ Different volumes of a multivolume work  
(1: 336)
- ▣ Citing indirect sources  
(Johnson qtd. in Boswell 2:450)



# Other problems

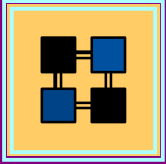
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- Use the MLA handbook for other difficult or tricky problems. If you check the index at the back of the book, it will direct you to the section of the book where you can find the answer. For example, the book may direct you to 4:13 This means look in section 4, number 13 to find the answer to your question

# Handling Parenthetical Citations

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- ▣ If the source has no known author, then use an abbreviated version of the title:

Full Title: “California Cigarette Tax Deters Smokers”

Citation: (“California” A14)

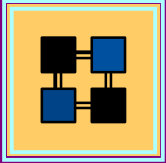
- ▣ If the source is only one page in length or is a web page with no apparent pagination:

Source: Dave Poland’s “Hot Button” web column

Citation: (Poland)

# Long quotations

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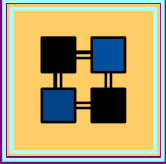
- ▣ Try to keep quotes as short as possible

If the quote is over four lines long, indent

Introduce the quotation with a colon :

# How to Enter Long Quotations: An example

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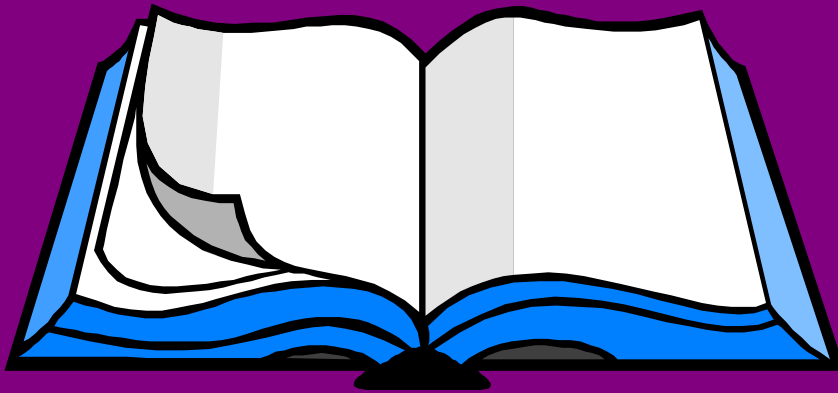
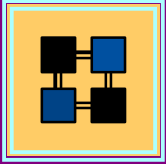
David becomes identified and defined by James Steerforth, a young man with whom David is acquainted from his days at Salem House. Before meeting Steerforth, David accepts Steerforth's name as an authoritative power:

There was an old door in this playground, on which the boys had a custom of carving their names. . . . In my dread of the end of the vacation and their coming back, I could not read a boy's name, without inquiring in what tone and with what emphasis he would read, "Take care of him. He bites." There was one boy—a certain J. Steerforth—who cut his name very deep and very often, who I conceived, would read it in a rather strong voice, and afterwards pull my hair. (Dickens 68)

For Steerforth, naming becomes an act of possession, as well as exploitation. Steerforth names David for his fresh look and innocence, but also uses the name Daisy to exploit David's romantic tendencies (Dyson 122).

# Other Problems with Quotes in Your Text

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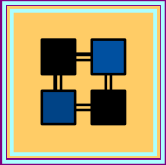


There are many different combinations and variations within MLA citation format.

If you run into something unusual, look it up!  
There are MLA books to check out in the LHS Library

# Works Cited Page At The End of the Paper

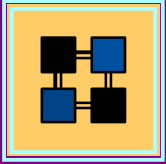
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- ▣ A complete list of every source that you make reference to in your essay, *(even if you don't quote it directly)*
- ▣ Provides the information necessary for a reader to locate and retrieve any sources cited in your essay *(your teacher can check to see if the material is available)*



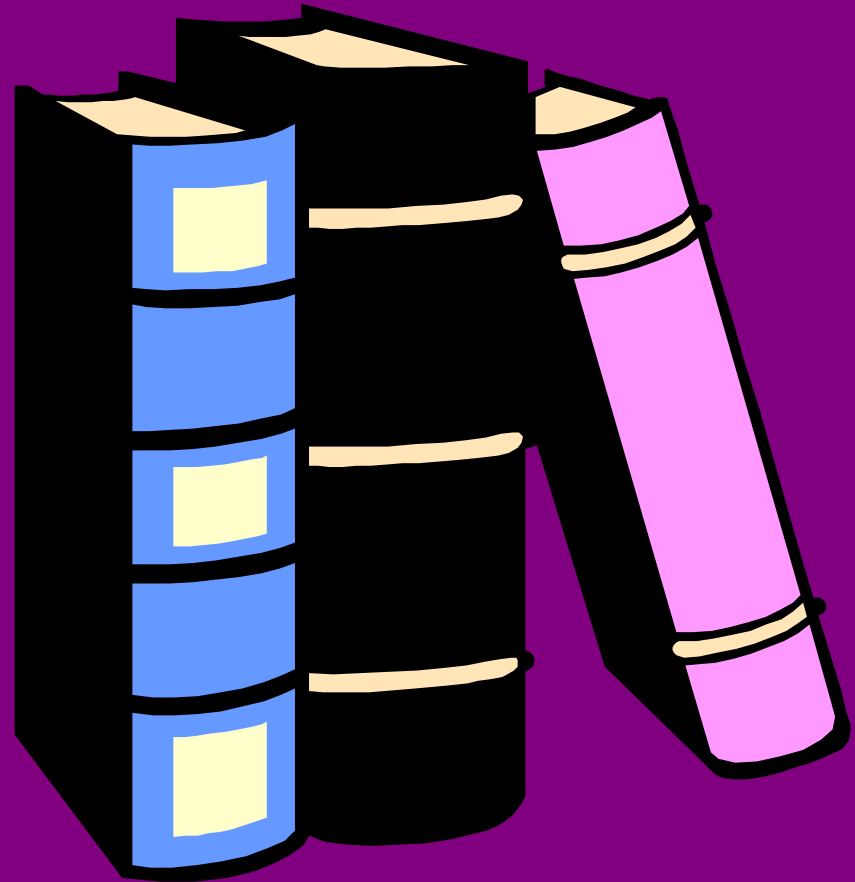
# Works Cited



Most citations should contain the following basic information:

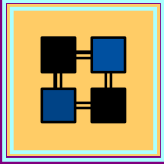
- ▣ Author's name
- ▣ Title of work
- ▣ Publication information

(place of publication and date of pub.)



# Sample Works Cited Page - Books with one author

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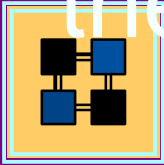
Smith 12  
Works Cited

Dickens, Charles. *Bleak House*. 1852-1853.  
New York: Penguin, 1985.



# Sample Works Cited Page - Books when there are two books by the same author

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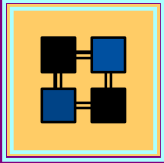
Smith12  
Works Cited

Dickens, Charles. *Bleak House*. 1852-1853. New York: Penguin, 1985.

---. *David Copperfield*. 1849-1850. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1958.

# Sample book with two authors

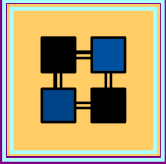
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Smith 12

- ▣ Markham, Ron, and Cheryl Courson. *The Handbook of Beekeeping*. New York: Penguin, 1985.

# Sample book with three authors



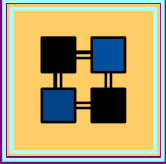
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Smith 12

- ▣ Markham, Ron, et al. *The Handbook of Beekeeping*. New York: Penguin, 1985.

# Works Cited: Example of a magazine article

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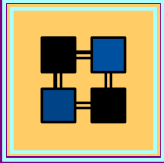
## ▣ Article in a Magazine

Klein, Joe. "Dizzy Days." *The New Yorker* 5  
Oct. 1998: 40-45.

Notice the title of the article is in quotes, while the title of the magazine is italicized. You need to write down the page numbers.

# Works Cited: Newspaper

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- ▣ A newspaper article with the author named.

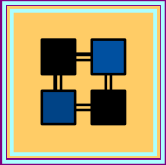
Tommasini, Anthony. "Master Teachers Whose Artistry Glows in Private." *New York Times* 27 Oct. 1998: B2.

- ▣ A newspaper article with no author listed

"Cigarette Sales Fall 30% as California Tax Rises." *New York Times* 14 Sept. 1999: A17.

# Works Cited: Website

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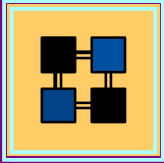
## Web page

Dorrman, Dave. "The Hot Button." *Roughcut*. 26 Oct. 1998. Turner Network Television. 28 Dec. 1998 ([www.roughcut.com](http://www.roughcut.com)).

Note the author of the page is listed first. The title of the page is listed next, then the title of the website. The date of publication is next. The second date is the date you accessed the page. Please note every page may not have all of the necessary information.

# Works Cited: Interviews

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- ▣ A TV interview

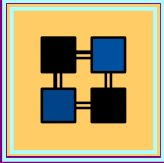
McGwire, Mark. Interview with Matt Lauer. *The Today Show*. NBC. WTHR, Indianapolis. 22 Oct. 1998.

- ▣ A personal interview

Mellencamp, John. Personal interview. 27 Oct. 1998.

# Works Cited

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What other types of sources might you need to list on your Works Cited page?

How do you cite a guest speaker?

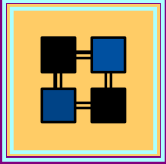
A pamphlet?

An email response from an expert?



# The Answers Are in the MLA Handbook

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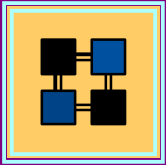


Study the basics of MLA citation format.  
When something is unusual, look it up.

Or you can check this site:

[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_mla.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html)

# Where can you go for additional help with MLA documentation?



- ▣ Check the Purdue web site:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>
- ▣ Email brief questions:  
[owl@owl.english.purdue.edu](mailto:owl@owl.english.purdue.edu)
- ▣ Check with the LHS librarian
- ▣ Ask your teacher for help
- ▣ Visit the after school tutorial in the library