



In-Text Citation Help (MLA 8th Edition)

In basic parenthetical citations, the author's last name and page number are included in the in-text citation, and no punctuation is used (**Gonzales 77**). Parenthetical citations in MLA format **do not** include the year of publication, p. or pp, or the full title of the source. The parenthetical citation goes at the end of the sentence. Keep in mind that not citing sources properly can be considered a form of plagiarism.

First, however, decide if you are using a **direct quote** (quoting the source verbatim, or word for word) or an **indirect quote** (paraphrasing or putting the concept in your own words, not citing verbatim). Then, when parenthetical citations are more complex, refer to the following examples:

Instructions	Parenthetical Citation Example
If a source begins with the names of two authors , include both last names in the in-text citation, connected by <i>and</i> .	(Dorris and Erdrich 23)
If a source has three or more authors , the entry in the works cited list begins with the first author's name followed by <i>et al.</i>	(Salazar et al. 42)
An anthology is a collection of works by multiple authors. Some may include an essay in an edited collection or anthology, or a chapter of a book. Only cite the authors of the chapter(s) or section(s) you are using, not the entire source.	(Harris 92)
When a corporate author is named in a parenthetical citation, abbreviate terms that are commonly abbreviated, like <i>Department (Dept.)</i> . If the corporate author is identified on the works cited list by the names of administrative units separated by commas, give all names in the in-text citation.	(United States, Dept. of Justice 147)
For a source without page numbers , like an online article, use paragraph numbers as <i>par.</i> You will most likely have to count the number of paragraphs in the entire source.	(Martinez par. 12) (Martinez pars. 12-15)
For time-based media , like video, times are now cited in the text. Provide the numbers of hours, minutes, and seconds as they are displayed on a media player, separating the numbers with colons.	("Buffy" 00:03:16-17)



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<p>To cite the U.S. Constitution, abbreviate the titles and the works are cited by sections. It is recommended to reference the U.S. Constitution in the sentence itself and only provide the amendment and section number in the parenthetical citation at the end of the sentence.</p>	<p>(US Const. amend. XII, sec. 3)</p>
<p>When citing scripture, provide an entry on the works-cited list for the edition consulted. While general terms like Bible, Talmud, Koran, and Bhagavad Gita are NOT italicized, full and shortened titles of specific versions are.</p>	<p>(Psalm 95:2)</p>
<p>When a source has no known author, use a shortened title of the work instead of an author name. Place the title in quotation marks if it's a short work (such as an article) or italicize it if it's a longer work (e.g. plays, books, television shows, entire Web sites) and provide a page number if it is available.</p>	<p>("Impact of Global Warming" 72)</p>
<p>To cite multiple sources in the same parenthetical reference, separate the citations by a semi-colon.</p>	<p>(Cisneros 3; Dewey 21)</p>
<p>Format quotations longer than four full lines of prose as a block quotation. Place the quotation in a freestanding block of text and omit quotation marks. Next, start the quotation on a new line, with the entire quote indented ½ an inch from the left margin. Maintain double spacing. The parenthetical citation should come after the last sentence's closing punctuation mark.</p>	<p>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)</p>



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