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Ms. Bowe
LA III: Period 1
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1" margins top, left, right, and bottom.

Last name and page number in header → Bristow 1

European date day/month (not abbreviated)/year

Double space entire paper

Your Title Goes Here

This is an example of a Modern Language Association Research Paper. Vancouver High School students should follow this model when composing and submitting research papers. Please pay attention to the margins, indentions, font, line spacing, and citation information. The first paragraph of your essay is called the introduction.

As you can see, there is a double space between every line of the paper—it is a common mistake to put too many spaces under the title, so be careful. MLA papers use Times New Roman and are typed in size 12 font. When you decide to use information you learned from a resource, even if you put it in your own words, you must provide parenthetical documentation to give credit to the source (Collins 1003). In formatting these quotes, if your quote is longer than four lines, you must block it:

Blocked quotes are indented one inch from the left margin. The quote should NOT include quotation marks and the parenthetical information is placed after the final punctuation. Writers should not make a habit of using lengthy quotes in papers, but should focus on presenting only necessary information to the reader.

(Bixler 6)

Also, according to modern grammar rules, “A quote that is not connected to something is a grammatical mistake” (“Calm Reigns” 12). Therefore, if you want to use a quote from Nuttle 2

Make sure bottom margin remains 1"

No quotation marks, and period is placed before the parenthetical documentation

No author. Use title

Only essential part of quote is embedded

Only essential part of quote is embedded.

a reliable source, you must “establish a context” for it in your own writing; otherwise, “students end up . . . with a paper that is merely a patchwork of information” (L. Libby). According to Daniels’ video, “Darfur kids are really behind in MLA documentation skills.” Writers should avoid ending paragraphs with quotations because the writer needs to explain the relevance of the quote.

The final paragraph of your essay is called the conclusion. It should sum up what you were trying to do with your topic and leave your audience with some sense of closure. One can accomplish a circular ending by connecting the conclusion to the opening sentence of the introduction in some way.

In Text Citations

From the MLA Handbook, 7th Edition, 6.4.2, 6.4.4, Citing Part of a Work.

- If you quote, paraphrase, or otherwise use a specific passage in a book, an article, or another work, give relevant page or section (e.g, paragaraph) numbers or numbers. When the authors name is in your text, give only the number reference in parentheses (239), but if the context does not ...identify the author, add the author’s last name before the reference (Chapman 239). Do not insert page references, such as p. or pp.
- When a source has no page numbers or any other kind of reference numbers, no number can be given in the parenthetical reference. The work must be sited in its entirety (see 6.4.1 and 6.4.4) though you may indicate in you text an approximate location of the cited passage (In the final third of the article, Smith argues for revolution (239).
- If the work in the Works Sited is listed by title, use the title, shortened or in full. (“Calm Reigns” 12)
- Do not count unnumbered paragraphs. For numbered paragraphs use par. or pars.

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