

# Guide to MLA Annotated Works Cited

## How to Use In-Text Citations

In the body of your paper, you must reference (quotation, paraphrase, or fact-drop) *at least one* piece of evidence from *each* of your sources *at least once*. This directs the reader to a complete listing of this source on your Works Cited (WC) page. For this reason, the in-text citation usually includes the author's last name. If there is no author, then the in-text citation should instead include the first few words of the title, which appears first in WC page citations when the source doesn't have an author. Also, if you mention the author, title, and/or page number in the sentence itself, then you don't need to include the information again in an in-text citation. Web source in-text citations do not need page numbers.

### Direct Quotation Examples:

- Many scholars believe that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Stanley 15). **Note:** The author's last name appears in the in-text citation.
- Rupert Stanley stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (15). **Note:** Since the author's name was included in the sentence, you don't need it in the in-text citation.

### Paraphrase Examples:

- Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process ("Romantic Poetry"). **Note:** There is no direct quote, but you still need an in-text citation to tell the reader where you got this information. Also, this is a web source with no author, so the in-text citation provides the first two words of the article title, and no page/paragraph number is required.
- On page 263, Fisher agrees that emotion is an important factor in the creative process ("Emotion in Wordsworth's"). **Note:** Since the page number is given in the sentence, it is not needed in the in-text citation.

### Fact-Drop Examples:

- In a 2010 study, Tony, Hierach, Trishman, and Brown concluded that 13% of American teens struggle with obesity (23). **Note:** There is no direct quote, but you still need an in-text citation to tell the reader where you got this information. Since the authors of this study are listed in the sentence, they are not needed in the in-text citation.
- As of 2010, 13% of teens struggle with obesity in the U.S.A. (Brown et al. 23). **Note:** When referring to more than two writers, use the shortened "et al." (and others) in the in-text citation.

## How to Format an Annotated Works Cited Page

- **Create a new page** using the page-break function to ensure that your Works Cited page is always the final page of your essay.
- **Title it Works Cited.** This should be centered and at the top of the final page. Just like the title of your essay, do not use bigger font, bolding, or underlining.
- **Double-space throughout.**
- **Use MLA Formatted citations.** Check Purdue University's Online Writing Lab (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>) for exhaustive information about how to cite sources. Please do not include internet URL's.
- **Arrange alphabetically by first word.** This is usually the author's last name, although it is occasionally the first word of the article title whenever the source has no author.
- **Use hanging indents** (like reverse paragraph indents) so that it is easy to spot the first word of your citations (see sample). You might need to look up instructions for how to do this in Pages or Word.
- **Annotate.** Annotations begin immediately after the citation ends, and should include the following:
  - **WHO** -- Who wrote it, and how you know that person/group is an authority on the subject?
  - **WHAT** -- What did it say?
  - **WHY** -- Why is it a good addition to your research, and why was it written (including intended audience)?

**SAMPLE**

Works Cited

Title of page is centered,  
and NOT bigger font or  
bolded.

Double-  
spaced, with  
1 inch page  
margins

Elias, Harper. "Motivation of Women and Men in Competitive Sports". *Psychology Today* 1998:

Hanging  
indents, so  
that the first  
word sticks  
out

23-8. *Proquest Research Library*. Web. 16 February 2013. Elias is a researcher who graduated from the University of South Carolina with a doctorate in Psychology, and has focused on gender studies for most of her career. This source gave me some statistics about how women are less likely to try out for sports that are not gender specific. The goal of this study was to uncover gender inequality in sports and encourage the sports world to change.

Freeman, Theodore. *The Changing Role of Women in Olympic Sports*. New York: Book City

Publishers, 2012. Print. Freeman is a long-time figure skating coach who used to train

Olympic athletes. His book comments on women's shifting role in Olympic sports, as

more woman-specific sports appear every year. He hopes that his book breeds even more representation from women.

Annotation  
begins  
immediately  
after citation  
ends.

"Should Boys & Girls be Coached the Same Way?" *Becoming a Better Coach* 2008: 40-46.

Sources are  
arranged  
alphabetically  
by first word  
of entry

Web. 15 February 2013. This article doesn't have an author, but was published by the National Association of Coaching. I thought this source was useful because many people think coaching girls and boys the same way is a good thing, so that they are more equal.

However, this article says that boys and girls have physical and mental differences that are important to address in coaching in order to give each gender a competitive edge.