

# **Citing References MLA Style**

Kalamazoo Valley Community College Libraries

Adapted guidelines from the MLA Handbook 2003

## MLA In-Text References

Are humans the only creatures with the ability to talk? Some scientists will argue yes; others will point at the behavior of birds and dolphins, for instance, and argue that they have the ability to communicate. Certainly, some pets and circus animals have a remarkable ability to “understand” a trainer’s command. Also, as Griffin’s studies have shown, bees can tell fellow members of the hive the location of good sources of food (4). Some of the most interesting studies have been done with primates in an attempt to teach them sign language. Allen and Beatrice Gardner have spent the last ten years attempting to teach a female chimpanzee, Washoe, to communicate. According to their studies, Washoe has a vocabulary of 150 words (Peterson 97).

To make your paper smoother, try to incorporate the author’s name into the text when possible. When you do this, all you need to place in parentheses is the page number.

The MLA style incorporates the reference information into the text and does away with a footnote or endnote page. Instead of a tiny raised number, this method places the page number inside of the parentheses. Note that the period that ends the sentence is after the parentheses and that you **do not** need the comma to separate the author’s last name from the page number.

Always remember, it’s not just direct quotes that need references; all information needs its sources identified!

## **MLA Format**

*Double-space all lines on actual reference page.* You may go to the MLA Web site for current information: [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org)

### **Book with one author:**

Bolinger, Dwight. Language: The Loaded Weapon. London: Longmans, 1980.

### **Book with more than one author:**

Rabinow, Paul and Walter Sullivan. Interpretive Social Science. New York: Dutton, 1979.

### **Encyclopedia:**

"Siberia." Encyclopedia Britannica: Micropedia. 2000 ed.

### **Reference Book, collection:**

Cramer, Carmen. "The Americanization of Leo Finkle." Cuyahoga Review 22 (1983): 89-90. In Contemporary Literary Criticism, vol. 85. Editor Christopher Giroux. Detroit: Gale Research, 1995. 394-396.

### **Edited or compiled Book:**

Weisser, Susan Ostrov, ed. Women and Romance: A Reader. New York: New York UP, 2001.

### **CultureGrams: Multivolume work:**

"Japan." CultureGrams: World Edition. Vol.1. Provo, Utah: ProQuest CSA., 2007. 2 vols. ("...you need give only page numbers when you refer to that work in the text" of the paper.)

### **Articles: (daily, weekly, or monthly publication, issues paginated separately):**

Kosowski, Frank. "Cheese." Scientific American. May 1985: 45+. (+ indicates more pages later in the issue.)

### **Journal, continuous pagination:**

Mills, Ken. "Learning the Test." College English 48 (1986): 24-28.

### **Article, no author,**

"Pork Expert Fined \$1,000 for Smuggling Hog Diseases." New York Times 2 May 1985: A11. (The "A" in A11 is the section number.)

### **Home Page for a course**

Cuddy-Keane, Melba. Professing Literature. Course home page. Sept. 2000- Apr. 2001 Dept. of English, U of Toronto. 4 Oct. 2002 <<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~mcuddy/ENG9900H/Index.htm>>. (First dates are dates course was offered. Second date is date the web site was accessed.)

### **Home Page for an academic department**

Microbiology and immunology. Dept. home page. Stanford U School of Medicine. 4 Oct. 2002 <<http://cmgm.stanford.edu/micro/>>. (Date is date of access.)

### **Personal Home Page:**

Lancashire, Ian. Home page. 28 Mar. 2002. 15 May 2002<<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca:8080/i-ian/>>. (First date is date of last update, if given. Second date is date of access.)

***Citing Electronic Publications - MLA STYLE***  
**(Double-space all lines on actual reference page.)**

**Magazines and Newspapers from a Library Subscription Service (ProQuest, InfoTrac, etc.)**

Author's Last Name, First Name and Initial. "Title of Article." Title of Magazine Day Month Year: Page Range (if known). Database Name (if known). Database Publisher. Library Name, Name of City (if useful). Day Month Year of Access <url of service's homepage> (if known).

**Examples:**

Schaefer, Bradley E. "Meteors That Changed the World." Sky and Telescope Dec. 1998: 68-75. ProQuest. Kalamazoo Valley Community College Library. 29 Oct. 1999 <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb>.

Hawkins, Beth L. "Idealism with a Business Edge." Facilities Design & Management May 2002: 32+. InfoTrac OneFile. Kalamazoo Valley Community College Library. 18 Apr. 2005 <http://web3.infotrac.galegroup.com>.

"Japan." Culture Briefings. Geo Travel Research Center. Kalamazoo Valley Community College Library. 15 April 2005 <http://www.culturebriefings.com>.

Rothman, David J. "Commerce in Organs Has Led to Human Rights Violations." Medical Ethics. Ed. James D. Torr. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven Press, 2000. Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center. Kalamazoo Valley Community College Library. 21 April 2005 <http://galenet.galegroup.com>.

**Scholarly Journals from a Library Subscription Service (ProQuest, InfoTrac, etc.)**

Author's Last Name, First Name and Initial. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume Number and/or Issue Number (Year): Page Range (if known). Database Name (if known). Database Publisher. Library Name. Day Month Year of Access <url of service's homepage>.

**Example:**

Onwuemene, Michael C. "Limits of Transliteration: Nigerian Writers' Endeavors toward a National Literary Language." PMLA 114 (1999): 1055-66. ProQuest. Kalamazoo Valley Community College Library. 3 Dec. 1999 <http://proquest.umi.com/>.

**Newspaper and Newswire Articles**

Author's Last Name, First Name and Initial. "Title of Article." Title of Newspaper Day Month Year. Day Month Year of Access <url of service's homepage> (if known).

**Example:**

Biersdorfer, J. D. "Religion Finds Technology." New York Times on the Web 16 May 2002. 20 May 2002 <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/05/16/technology/circuits/16CHUR.html>.

**Online Book (E-Book)**

Author's Last Name, First Name and Initial. Title of work. Ed. First Name Last Name (editor, translator, etc. (if relevant)). City of publication, Name of publisher, year of publication (if given in the source). Internet Site Title, Editor (if known), version (if known), date of electronic publication, sponsoring institution if any. Day Month Year of access <url for the book>.

**Example:**

Lathrop, Ann and Kathleen Foss. Student Cheating and Plagiarism in the Internet Era. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 2000. netLibrary. 21 April 2005 < www.netlibrary.com/Reader/>.

**E-Journal**

Levy, Steven. "Great Minds, Great Ideas." Newsweek 27 May 2002. 20 May 2002 <http://www.msnbc.com/news/754336.asp>.

Clarke, Tom. "Polio's Last Stand." Nature 409 (2001): 278-280. 21 April 2005 <http://www.nature.com>.

**An Entire Internet Site**

Duke Ellington. Estate of Mercer K. Ellington. 11 Oct. 2007 <http://www.dukeellington.com/>. (Date is date of access.)