

MLA Example Paper



1 inch margins on all sides.

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Professor Gale
Writing 3240
19 Jan. 2017

Your name
Your professor's name
Course #
Date (day, month, year)

Include your last name and page # in the header.

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Center the title. Do not bold or underline the title.

The "Old Chaos of the Sun": The Eternal in Wallace Stevens' Poems

This paper is an example of a paper using MLA formatting. MLA uses an

author-location system of citing. For in-text citations you can use the author's name in a signal phrase. According to Wallace Stevens, modern poetry "has to find what will suffice" (132). Or, alternately, you could quote your source and then put the author's name and page number in the parentheses at the end. For example, modern poetry "has to find what will suffice" (Stevens 132). Notice that there is no comma between the author's last name and the page number.

The first time you introduce an author, use their first and last name.

Every time after use just their last name.

The recommended typeface is Times New Roman with a 12 point font size.

Some sources, like websites, will not have page numbers. In that case, include information that would help the reader find the paragraph or section that information is in. So, if you would like to quote something you found on the Poetry Foundation website, you would include the paragraph number so your reader can easily locate the information. For example, Stevens has often been characterized as "a willfully difficult poet" because of the philosophical complexity of his ideas ("Wallace" par. 1).

Use "par." to indicate which paragraph the quote is in.

Check out our resources on the AUSB Writing Center website. We have advice for writing in a variety of different genres. We also have tips for thesis statement development, conclusion strategies, and integrating quotes. Additionally, we are happy to help you with formatting your in-text citations and Works Cited page.

"Works Cited" should be typed in 12 point font and centered on the top of your references page. Do not bold or underline.

Include your last name and page # in the header.

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Works Cited

Since the editors put the book together, they will be listed first.

Holland, Merlin, et al., editors. *The Complete Letters of Oscar Wilde*. Henry Holt, 2000, pp. 30-37.

In-text citation:
(Holland and Hart-Davis 32)

For 3 or more authors, use just the 1st author's name and "et al."

Moody, Rick. "Surveyors of the Enlightenment." *The Atlantic*, July 1997, <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1997/07/surveyors-of-theenlightenment/376912/>

In-text citation:
(Moody par. 5)

O'Brien, Eugene. *Seamus Heaney: Searches for Answers*. Pluto Books, 2003, *JSTOR E-book*, www.jstor.org/antioch.idm.oclc.org/stable/j.ctt18dzsg5

In-text citation:
(O'Brien ch. 9)

Stevens, Wallace. "Of Modern Poetry." *The Palm at the End of the Mind: Selected Poems and a Play*, edited by Holly Stevens, Vintage Books, 1990, p. 18.

In-text citation:
(Stevens, "Modern" 132)

For 2 or more works by the same author(s), start the 2nd entry with three hyphens and a period.

---. "Sunday Morning." *The Collected Poems of Wallace Stevens*, 4th ed., Faber & Faber, 1971, pp. 36-37.

In-text citation:
(Stevens, "Sunday" 18)

Talese, Gay. "Delving into Private Lives." *Telling True Stories: A Nonfiction Writers' Guide*, edited by Kramer, Mark, and Wendy Call, 1st ed., U of Harvard P, 2007, pp. 6-9.

In-text citation:
(Talese 8)

Vendler, Helen Wallace. "Stevens as an American Poet." *YouTube*, Stanford University, 21 Jan. 2012, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rR8FOV7vEng>

In-text citation:
(Vendler 18:17-32:00)

There is no author for this webpage. Start your entry with the title of the webpage in quotes.

"Wallace Stevens." *Poetry Foundation*, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/wallace-stevens>. Accessed 19 Jan. 2017.

In-text citation:
(*"Wallace"* par. 1)

Include the date of access if the content is likely to change.

For audio and video recordings, cite the relevant time/range of times (as displayed in your media player).

If you cite more than one work by an author, you should include a shortened form of the source's title in your in-text citation.
If I quote one poem of Wallace Stevens: (Stevens 132).
If I quote 2 poems: (Stevens, "Modern" 132), (Stevens, "Sunday" 18).