**MLA Citing Sources Within a Piece of Writing**

In MLA style, writers place references to sources in the paper to briefly identify them and enable readers to find them in the Works Cited list.

* Give only the information needed to identify a source. Usually the author's last name and a page reference.
* Place the parenthetical reference as close as possible its source.
* Information in the parenthesis should complement, not repeat, information given in the text.
* The parenthetical reference should precede the punctuation mark that concludes the sentence, clause, or phrase that contains the cited material.
* Electronic and online sources are cited just like print resources in parenthetical references.

**Examples:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Author's name in text** | Dover has expressed this concern (118-21). |
| **Author's name in reference** | This concern has been expressed (Dover 118-21). |
| **Multiple authors of a work** | This hypothesis (Bradley and Rogers 7) suggested this theory (Sumner, Reichl, and Waugh 23). |
| **Two locations** | Williams alludes to this premise (136-39, 145). |
| **Two works cited** | (Burns 54; Thomas 327) |
|  |
|  |  |
| **Works with no author**When a work has no author, use the work's title or a shortened version of the title when citing it in text.  | as stated by the presidential commission (*Report* 4). |

**"**[**Frequently Asked Questions about the *MLA Style Manual***](http://www.mla.org/style_faq)**." *Modern Language Association*. Modern Language Association, 2008. Web. 30 June 2009.**