

John Snow

Mr. Bird

AP Language & Composition

21 December 1872

The Cheat Sheet for MLA Format

MLA format requires 1 inch margins on all sides, 12 point and Times New Roman font. Instead of a title page, beginning from the top of the first page and even with the left margin, type your name, your instructor's name, the course name and the date on separate lines, double-spacing between the lines. Double-space again and center the title. Double-space also between the lines of the title, and double-space between the title and the first line of the text. Do not underline your title, or put it in bold, use quotation marks or type in all capital letters.

Number all pages consecutively throughout the research paper in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and even with the right margin. Type your last name before the page number, as a precaution in case pages are misplaced. Beginning with page 2, position the first line of text one inch from the top of the page with your name and page number flush to the right side, one-half inch from the top.

To cite a quote within an essay, the quote is followed by parentheses with the author's last name and page number, note that the punctuation follows the parentheses. For example, vegetarians struggling to get enough protein "can benefit from the regular inclusion of chili" in their diet (Lundman 23). Lundman is the author's last name and 23 is the page number of the text in which the quote can be found. Some articles do not have author's names given, so we simply use the first word or two of the title to cite it instead. For example, "the inflammation borne from the fungus is very uncomfortable" (Athlete's). Note that there was not a page number on that citation since it was an internet source that lacks page numbers to reference.

Your last page—the *Works Cited* page—lists to all sources cited within the paper (books, movies, articles, websites, etc.) It should be on its own page—not the same page as the conclusion paragraph of your paper. General guidelines for citing sources include: alphabetizing by the author’s last name, title of the book, city of publication, publisher’s name, and year of publication. However sites such as [easybib](#) can autogenerate the formatting for you.

Works Cited

- Doucet, Lyse. "‘The nightmare is over’: Americans freed by Iran in prisoner swap." *BBC*, 18 September 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-66841137>. Accessed 18 September 2023.
- Gambrell, Jon, et al. "5 Prisoners Sought by the US in a Swap with Iran have been freed and arrived in Qatar." *AP News*, 18 September 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/iran-us-prisoner-swap-sanctions-assets-4e1fa477f8e6af45fb764acd259c2f1a>. Accessed 18 September 2023.
- Richard, Lawrence. "5 Americans detained to be freed Monday under prisoner swap deal, Iran Foreign Ministry says." *Fox News*, 18 September 2023, <https://www.foxnews.com/world/5-americans-detained-freed-monday-prisoner-swap-deal-iran-foreign-ministry-says>. Accessed 18 September 2023.