

Student's Name

Professor's Name

Course Number

Date

The Title of the Paper Capitalized and Centered

First Level Heading

Unless required in the instructions, the headers should be used only in five-or-more-page papers. The introduction of an essay should end with a strong, debatable thesis statement and approximately take 10% of the required word count. Please note that student's information, title, headers, and Works Cited page are not counted towards the required word count.

The first sentence of a paragraph is always a topic sentence. It states the main idea or argument presented in the paragraph. Topic sentence should be followed by supporting information from the reliable and up-to-date sources. Avoid plagiarism using direct and indirect citations followed by an in-text citation mentioning an author's surname and a page number (Pears and Graham 1). In case a web publication contains no pagination, use an author's surname or a name of a source followed by "no page" shortening (Research Guides n.p.). Please note that a long name of a source is to be shortened in the in-text citation. Do not leave a paragraph with a citation at the end. Every paragraph should end with a transition sentence serving as a bridge between two adjacent paragraphs.

Second Level Heading

Use second level heading to specify the subpoints contributing to the topic of the previous header. No paragraph indentation is required in such a case. Please note that one paragraph

should at least contain 3 sentences and should not exceed 200 words. Try to avoid generic and vague information, be specific and always refer to the thesis, i.e. the core argument of an essay.

Conclusion

Please note that short papers containing up to 5 pages do not require a “Conclusion” header, as well as other headers mentioned in the template, unless they are required in the instructions. Also, there is no page brake between the last two paragraphs, i.e. conclusion should not be presented on a separate page. It should restate the thesis statement, summarize the key ideas presented in the paper, contain no new or outside information, and approximately take 10% of the required word count.

For more information concerning in-text citations of sources containing more than two authors, other types of references, as well as detailed MLA formatting style requirements please visit:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html

Works Cited

Pears, Richard, and Graham J. Shields. *Cite them right: the essential referencing guide*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

"Research Guides: MLA Citation Style Guide: 8th Edition: In-Text

Citations". *Libguides.Wvu.Edu*, 2018,

<https://libguides.wvu.edu/c.php?g=486188&p=3325207>. Accessed 12 Feb 2019.