

Grade 8 MLA 9 Citation Guide

This guide will help you cite all of your sources in MLA 9. Please note that this is a *live* document. It is updated regularly. Please email Ms. Taylor (ltaylor@nashobabrooks.org) with any questions.

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Bibliographic Citations

- Bibliographic Citations are information heavy/long citations that appear at the end of your paper or presentation on the work cited page. They include at least five pieces of information.

In-text Citations

- In-text Citations are short citations that appear immediately within your paper or presentation. They only include the authors/creator's last name and page number if available.
- If your source does not have an author/creator, use the **first few words of the title with quotation marks for article titles and italics for book titles.**
 - Examples: (Rabb) or (Taylor and Rabb) or (Taylor et al.)
 - Titles longer than a standard noun phrase should be shortened into a noun phrase by excluding articles. For example, *To the Lighthouse* would be shortened to (*Lighthouse*).
 - If the title cannot be easily shortened into a noun phrase, the title should be cut after the first clause, phrase, or punctuation ("Impact of Global Warming").

Tips & Reminders

- If the name of the month has more than 4 letters you abbreviate it
 - September→ Sep.
- Date is listed **Day Month Year**
- Et al. is used for titles with more than two authors. Place the first name on the publication list at the start of the citation.
 - Example: Taylor, Laurie **et al.**
- If your citation only has two authors follow this order (last name, first name and first name last name)
 - Example: Gatti, Emily and Susan Lewis.
- Italicized titles: books, plays, photograph titles, newspapers, journals, films, websites, TV series, Apps, Podcasts, Video games
 - App: TikTok
 - Newspaper: *The New York Times*
 - Book: *To All the Boys I loved Before*
- Titles in quotations: articles, essays in a collection, short stories, chapters in a book, songs, pages of a website, and poems are in quotation marks. Books within quotation titles still must be italicized.
 - Article about book: "The Flawed Greatness of *Huckleberry Finn*"
 - Poem in book or on website: "The Mower's Song." *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*
 - Page on website (contains book title): "The *Princess Bride* You Don't Know"
- More than one In-Text Citation use a semicolon to separate the sources
 - Example with authors: (Rabb; Taylor)
 - Example without authors: ("All About;" "History of Sports")

Databases

[Click here](#) to find school databases. When using these resources look for the citation button, either  or a checkbox 

Books

Basic Bibliographic format:

Author's Last Name, Author's First Name. *Title*. Publisher, publication date.

Book example:

Cline-Ransom, Lesa. *Finding Langston*. Holiday House, 2018.

Book example with two authors:

Rabb, Elaine and Laurie Taylor. *Bibliographic Citations with MLA 9*. Harper Collins, 2024.

Book example with three or more authors:

Rabb, Elaine, et al. *How to Teach English to 8th Graders*. Random House, 2021.

One author in-text citation

(Cline-Ransom 63)

More than 2 authors in-text citation

(Rabb et al. 145)

Reminders

- Et al. is used for titles with more than two authors. Place the first name on the publication list at the start of the citation
- If the work is by an unknown author begin the citation with the title, but if it is by an organization or corporate author this must be listed (for example: United Nations, CNN)

Interviews

Basic Bibliographic format:

Interviewees' Last Name, First Name. "Title of Interview." *Interviewed by*
Interviewer's Name, date of publication, URL.

Interview you Conducted

Taylor, Laurie. "Why Are Citations Important?" *Interviewed by* Emily Gatti, 20
Sep. 2024.

In-text Citation

(Taylor)

Reminders

- When you conduct an interview yourself you do not need to link the interview notes. Simply include the date you interviewed to end your citation.

Journals/Articles/ Blogs

Basic Bibliographic format:

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Article Title." *Journal/Magazine/Blog*, publication date, URL.

Online Article (or Blog)

Orbey, Eren. "The Radical Courage of Simone Biles's Exit from the Team USA Olympic Finals." *The New Yorker*, 27 July 2021,
www.newyorker.com/sports/replay/the-radical-courage-of-simone-biles-exit-from-the-team-usa-olympic-finals.

In-text Citations

(Orbey)

Reminders

- Et al. is used for titles with more than two authors. Place the first name on the publication list at the start of the citation.
- For in-text citations you can include up to two authors' last names. If there are more than two authors use Et al. If there is no author/creator use the first two words of the title.
 - (Rabb and Taylor 4-5)
 - (Gatti et al. 135)
 - ("The Radical" 117)
- If the work is by an unknown author, begin the citation with the title, but if it is by an organization or corporate author this must be listed (for example: United Nations, BBC, CNN).
- Do not include https:// in your URL, start with www.

Websites/Sections of Websites

Basic Bibliographic format:

With publication date (before URL):

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work or Section of Website." *Website Name*, date of publication, URL.

Without publication date (after URL):

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work or Section of Website." *Website Name*, URL. Accessed date.

Example with an author:

Chalamet, Timothée. "Breakfast with Timothée." *World of Timothée*,
www.therealtimmy.org. Accessed 18 Sep. 2021.

In-text Citation
(Chalamet)

Example without an author:

"Breakfast with Timothée." *World of Timothée*, www.therealtimmy.org.
Accessed 18 Sep. 2021.

In-text Citation
("Breakfast with")

Reminders

- If there is no publication date, end your citation with the date accessed. Date accessed **always follows the URL** while publication date goes before the URL.
- If the work is by an unknown author, begin the citation with the title, but if it is by an organization or corporate author this must be listed (for example: United Nations, BBC, CNN).

Social Media

Basic Bibliographic format:

Creators Name [@handle]. "Tweet" or description of image. *Container or website*, date published, URL.

Social Media Examples

X/Twitter Post:

Chaucer Doth Tweet [@LeVostreGC]. "A date without anachronism ys lyke Emily Dickenson without her lightsaber." *Twitter*, 7 Apr. 2018, twitter.com/LeVostreGC/status/9828299872868270009.

In-text Citations (Chaucer)

Twitter Photo:

Ng, Celeste [@pronounced_ing]. Photo of a letter from Shirley Jackson. *Twitter*, 22 Jan. 2018, twitter.com/pronounced-ing/status/955528799357231104.

Instagram:

Thomas, Angie. Photo of *The Hate You Give* cover. *Instagram*, 4 Dec. 2018, www.instagram.com/p/Bq_PaXKgqPw/.

In-text Citations (Thomas)

Tiktok:

Lilly [@uvisaa]. "[I]f u like dark academia there's a good chance you've seen my tumblr #darkacademia." *TikTok*, 2020, www.tiktok.com/@uvisaa/video/6815708894900391173.

In-text Citations (Lilly)

Comments (on blogs, Facebook, Instagram):

Max the Pen. Common on "Why They're Wrong." *The Economist*, 29 Sept. 2016, 6:06 pm., www.economist.com/node/21707926/comments.

In-text Citations (Max)

Reminders:

- X/Twitter posts must include the entire tweet.
- Images must use descriptive language like "Photo of" or "Cover of" within citation.
- Include name information and handle information.

- Publication date should always be included in a social media post.
- When citing comments on posts you must include the time.
- If hashtags are included in the title those must be included within the citation.

Videos

Basic Bibliographic format:

Videos are a bit trickier to cite as there is not as basic format to follow, it differs from platform to platform.

Video Examples

Youtube Video:

“10 Reasons Why Everyone Should Love Timothée Chalamet.” *YouTube*, uploaded by Timmy’s Gal, www.youtube.com/watch?v=timmy. Accessed 9 Sep. 2025.

In-text citation

(“10 Reasons” 5:19–8:02)

Ted Talks (Video Recording of Live Presentation):

Allende, Isabel. “Tales of Passion.” TED, 10 Mar. 2007, www.ted.com/talks/isabel-allende_tells_tales_of_passion?language=en.

Ted Talks (Video Recording of Live Presentation) on YouTube:

Leinhardt, James. “The Secret to Getting Better Sleep Tonight.” *Youtube*, uploaded by TEDx, 9 Jun. 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeJrU-VJGfg>.

In-text citation

(Leinhardt)

Reminders:

- For *Youtube* please include the channels name and creators name if it is listed. It is okay if you can only locate the channel name
 - Example: uploaded by Sally Brown [Timmy’s Gal]
- If you are listening to a song on *Youtube*, follow the Youtube citation example, just include the artist name at the beginning of the citation
- For in-text Citations for videos include the the time of the video you are referencing

Images

Basic Bibliographic format:

Artist or photographer (if available) Last Name, First Name. Title of Artwork. Date work was created if available. Title of Website, Date work was posted if available, URL.

Examples of Images

Online Image:

Aldegrevier, Heinrich. *Intemperance*. 1528. *The New York Public Library Digital Collections*, digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/d6a157b0-2efe-0133-e7f7-58d385a7b928.

Photograph in an Article:

Lee, Corky. Photograph of Asian Americans Protesting. "Corkey Lee's Photographs Helped Generations of Asian-Americans See Themselves," by Hua Hsu, 30 Jan. 2021. *The New Yorker*, www.newyorker.com/culture/postscript/corky-lees-photographs-helped-generations-of-asian-americans-see-themselves.

Reminders:

- All images need to be copyright safe so using resources like [Photos for Class](#), [Creative Commons](#), and [Gales Opposing Viewpoints](#) allows you to use safe images.

There are no in-text citations for images. Full bibliographic citations must be below the image.

Songs

Basic Bibliographic format:

Last Name, First Name. "Song." Publisher or Record Label, Year. *App, platform or website URL (like bensound)*.

Spotify Song:

Styles, Harry. "Watermelon Sugar." Erskine Columbia, 2019. *Spotify app*.

In-text Citations
(Styles)

Bensound Song:

Tissot, Benjamin. "Ukulele." Bensounds Royalty Free Music.
www.bensound.com/royalty-free-music/track/ukulele. Accessed 18 Sep. 2021.

In-text Citation
(Tissot)

Reminders:

- If you are citing multiple songs by the same artist in your paper/presentation you must include the song title in your in-text citation.
 - (Styles, "Watermelon Sugar")
 - (Styles, "Adore You")

Podcast

Basic Bibliographic format:

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Podcast." Narrated by, podcast ed., *Title of Website*, Date Published, Link.

Examples of Podcast

Podcast from website:

Olson, Melissa. "Missing and murdered: America's forgotten native girls."
Podcast ed., *BBC Sounds*, 3 Nov. 2021,
www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct17xh.

In-text Citation
(Olson)

Legal Works - Supreme Court Case

Basic Bibliographic format:

United States, Supreme Court. *Title of Case*. Date of Case, link.

Example of Supreme Court Case :

United States, Supreme Court. *Talton v. Mayes*. 18 May 1869.

tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/ll/usrep/usrep163/usrep163376/usrep163376.pdf.

In-text Citation

(Talton v. Mayes)

Emails

Basic Bibliographic format:

Writer's Last Name, First Name. Email to. Date Sent.

Example of Supreme Court Case :

Taylor, Laurie. Email to Emily Gatti. 12 Jan. 2022.

In-text Citation

(Taylor)

Hearings

Basic Bibliographic Format:.

Organization or Committee Name. *Title of Case*. Date of Case, link.

Congressional Hearings

United States, Congress, House, Committee on Education and Labor. *The Future of Learning: How Technology is Transforming Public Schools*. CSPAN3 , 16 June 2009, www.CSPAN.org.

In-text Citation

(United States- The Future)