

Fairchild Challenge's Guide to Citing Sources Using MLA

Plagiarism is defined as using another person's ideas or words and either not citing it properly or passing it off as your own. **Plagiarism will result in disqualification of all work submitted by the student(s) involved for the entire program year and all of their accumulated points will be nullified.**

Resources we will not accept:

- Google is a search engine, not a website with information. DO NOT CITE IT or other search engines. Use them to find information.
- Wikipedia is not a reliable source

Formatting the Bibliography

1. Visit the following website: www.easybib.com
2. Easybib will automatically format your reference in MLA style after you choose what type of source it is (e.g. book, website, periodical) and after you input all of the information. EasyBib is free and very easy to use!
3. This is some general information you should record from your source; the information you need depends on the source:
 - Title
 - Author/editor
 - Name of the publication company
 - Date of publication
 - Place of publication (city)
 - Pages that the information was found on
 - Volume, edition, series
 - Chapter/Section title, if chapter in a book/anthology
 - Date accessed if the source is a website
 - URL if the source is a website
4. When you are done entering your information on EasyBib, export it to a word document to have the correct formatting: Double spaced, second line of bibliography indented.

In Text Citations (Parenthetical)

1. If you have copied three or more words directly from the source **you must put it inside quotes.**
2. Parenthetical citations are formatted so that the first word in the bibliography of the source (typically the last name of the author) is written first followed by the page number where the quote is found. Quotes and parenthetical citations are formatted in this manner:

Source: Between 30 and 40 turtles did not survive, Fisher said. City lights often confuse new born sea turtles, who sometimes scramble from their nest toward the street instead of the moonlight ocean, Fisher said.

Source bibliography:

Campbell, Alexia, and Rafael Olmeda. "Blinded by the Light." The Miami Herald. 2 July 2009: 1B

You write: "City lights often confuse newborn sea turtles, who sometimes scramble from their nest toward the street instead of the moonlight ocean" (Campbell 1B).

Notice the quotes only go around the section of the sentence that is taken directly from the source. There is no punctuation inside the quotes since the punctuation goes after the parenthetical citation.

Notice that only the first last name was used and that there is no comma separating the last name from the page number. If there is no last name listed, then just use the first word that appears in the bibliography.

3. You should also use parenthetical citation if you have used facts found from a source. In this case it does not matter if you do not directly quote the source you are still using facts that you did not know on your own. For example:

Source: As of July 7, 2009 the world population is 6,769,556,991 people.

Source bibliography:

"U.S. and World Population Clocks." U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. 7 July 2009.

You write: According to the most recent estimation, the world population has grown to 6,769,556,991 people ("U.S.").

Notice that only the first word of the bibliography is used and that there is no page number since it is found on a website with only one page.

For more practice on how to cite sources properly go to [The Owl at Purdue's website](#).