

MLA 8th Edition

This most recent edition of MLA offers writers a method that is widely applicable to a variety of situations. Instead of strict rules to adhere to, this edition gives writers general principles to follow when citing their sources. This provides much more flexibility during the writing process.

When finding source information, look for these core elements:

- Author
- Title of source
- Title of container (where the title of source is found)
- Other contributors
- Version
- Number
- Publisher
- Publication date
- Location

After finding these core elements, citing them becomes a streamlined process and the *punctuation* is as follows:

- Author.
- Title of source.
- Title of container,
- Other contributors,
- Version,
- Number,
- Publisher,
- Publication date,
- Location.

On the following page, we have a number of examples to clarify how these core elements will be used in a standard works cited page. There will also be examples from the previous MLA edition for a side-by-side comparison.

These examples will include:

1. Online scholarly article
2. Late edition of a print book
3. Page on a website

Examples

| Past Edition | Current Edition |
|--|---|
| Lalami, Laila. "Save the Arts, Save America." <i>Nation</i> 304.13 (2017): 10-1. EBSCOhost. Web. 10 May 2017. | Lalami, Laila. "Save the Arts, Save America." <i>Nation</i> , vol. 304, no. 13, 17 Apr. 2017, pp. 10-11. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=122341115&site-eehost-live |
| Conrad, Joseph. <i>Heart of Darkness</i> . 3 rd ed. New York: Perennial-Harper, 2005. Print | Conrad, Joseph. <i>Heart of Darkness</i> . 3 rd ed., Perennial-Harper, 2005. |
| Riley, Alex. "Scotland is Home to Small 'Tigers', But Maybe Not for Long." <i>BBC Earth</i> . <i>BBC</i> , 5 May 2017. Web. 16 May 2017. | Riley, Alex. "Scotland is Home to Small 'Tigers', But Maybe Not for Long." <i>BBC</i> , http://www.bbc.com/earth/story/20170505-scotland-is-home-to-small-tigers-but-maybe-not-for-long . Accessed 16 May 2017. |

Quick Links and Resources

The MLA Style Center

This is the official site of the MLA 8th Edition and is a useful resource for answering your MLA-specific questions.
<https://style.mla.org/>

The Purdue OWL

This site offers writers a variety of sources concerning MLA style. It is especially useful when double-checking your works cited page.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

The Writing Center at UNC-Chapel Hill

This is a helpful resource for a variety of your grammatical and structural questions as you write your papers.

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/>

YouTube

These two videos provide an excellent overview of the basics of MLA 8th edition and are worth watching for foundational information:

<https://www.youtube.com/>

1. Understanding MLA Style (8th edition, 2016 updates)

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2. MLA Style: In-Text Citations (8th Ed., 2016)

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