Chinese International School

Yr. 7-9 Reference Style Handbook
(MLA Style : 7th edition)
Brief guide to MLA citation style

MLA stands for Modern Language Association.

Name of the author is the most important piece of information that you need when preparing an in-text reference and / or bibliography. Should the name of the author is not available then use the title of the work instead. This rule applies to both print and non-print materials.

1. Book [Single author]

   Author’s last name, First name. Title of the book. Publishing place: Publisher, year of publication. Print.


   Intext reference:
   (author’s last name page no.) i.e. (Walsh 236)
   No punctuation is necessary inside the bracket.

2. Book [no known Author or Editor]

   If the author’s name is unknown, alphabetize by the title, ignoring any initial A, An or The.

   Title of the book. Publishing place: Publisher, year of publication. Print.


   Intext reference:
   (Title of the book page no.) i.e. (Encyclopedia of Copyright 236)
   No punctuation is necessary inside the bracket.

3. Article in a Reference Book/Encyclopedia

   Do not cite the editor of a reference book if the article is signed with the author’s name, If unsigned give the title first and also list the edition [if stated] and the year of publication.


   Intext reference:
   (Name of article page no.) i.e. (Indian Philosophy 236)
   No punctuation is necessary inside the bracket.

4. Magazine / Journal Articles

   Author’s last name, First name. “Name of the article.” Title of the magazine issue no. (publication year): Page no. Medium.

5. **Newspaper Articles**

Author’s last name, First name. “Name of the article.” *Title of the newspaper* day, month, year of publication, edition, section, page number. Medium.


6. **Online Database e.g. Science Reference Center in Ebscohost**

Author’s last name, First name. “Article Title.” *Name of Journal* issue no. (publication year): Page Number. *Subscription Service Name*. Medium. Date of Access <Database URL>.


7. **Web pages**

Author. “Title of the work.” *Publisher of the site*. Date of publication. Medium. Date of access. <URL>


N.B. You may not be able to find all the above information, cite only that which is available. Stay away from documents that contain no author and no title.

Intext reference:
Should you have the name of the author, put it inside a bracket
**Example 1**: … how to create a bibliography “author is the most important part of information…” (Landa)

If you cannot find the name of the author then use the title of the website instead and put it in a bracket,
**Example 2**: Regarding the difficulties one fact in building a house, “choosing appropriate materials for the roof is the most difficult tasks” (“How to build your own house”)

8. **Pictures and diagrams**

*Title of the picture.* Photographer’s name. Sponsoring organisation, date. Medium. Date of access. <URL>


Intext reference:

[2012 MLA brief guide]
[5 March 2012]
In Dewey’s photograph *Lake Mead at Hoover Dam*, he …

9. DVD / video

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the DVD</th>
<th>Name of director / producer / performer</th>
<th>Distributor, date of release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Intext reference:
In “Hamlet”, the director ……

10. Personal interview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of interviewee</th>
<th>Personal interview</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pei, I.M.</td>
<td>Personal interview</td>
<td>16 October 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intext reference:
In the interview with I.M. Pei on 16th Oct. 2010, he suggested ……