

Advanced Citations:

In MLA, you will need two basic things to cite a source in your paper: Author's Last name and Page number. The citation will look like the following:

“Quoted material” (Smith 28). NOTE: Quotation marks before the parentheses; period after the parentheses, **no comma** between the author's last name and page number.

BUT.....

What if there are multiple authors? Quote all their last names: (Smith, Jones, and Brown 28)

What if there are a ton of authors (more than 3)? Use “et al.” (Jones et al. 44)

What if there are no authors? Use a shortened version of the title (“Saving the Whales” 33)

What if I'm quoting a person who is quoted in the article I'm reading? See what OWL@Purdue says:

Sometimes you may have to use an indirect source. An indirect source is a source cited in another source. For such indirect quotations, use "qtd. in" to indicate the source you actually consulted. For example:

Ravitch argues that high schools are pressured to act as "social service centers, and they don't do that well" (qtd. in Weisman 259).

Note that, in most cases, a responsible researcher will attempt to find the original source, rather than citing an indirect source.

What if I need to cite multiple sources at once? To cite multiple sources in the same parenthetical reference, separate the citations by a semi-colon:

. . . as has been discussed elsewhere (Burke 3; Dewey 21).

What if I'm citing from a webpage or non-print source?

For electronic and Internet sources, follow the following guidelines:

- Include in the text the first item that appears in the Work Cited entry that corresponds to the citation (e.g. author name, article name, website name, film name).
- You do not need to give paragraph numbers or page numbers based on your Web browser's print preview function.
- Unless you must list the Web site name in the signal phrase in order to get the reader to the appropriate entry, do not include URLs in-text. Only provide partial URLs such as when the name of the site includes, for example, a domain name, like *CNN.com* or *Forbes.com* as opposed to writing out <http://www.cnn.com> or <http://www.forbes.com>.