

Quoting and Citing: MLA Format

Cite your sources! When you are quoting material, introduce it with a comma or colon, use quotation marks, capitalize the first letter, cite the source and page number in parenthesis, end the sentence.

My favorite chapter of *Animal Farm* begins, “As winter drew on, Mollie became more and more troublesome” (Orwell 61).

Orwell does a nice job describing Mr. Whymper: “He was a sly-looking little man with side whiskers, a solicitor in a very small way of business (77).

If you are quoting only a few lines of poetry, make sure you indicate where one line ends and another begins. Also, your citation should be not the name of the poet (unless you have not mentioned it before) but the line numbers.

John Clare’s poem “First Love” communicates the giddiness of a first crush: “My face turned pale as deadly pale, / My legs refused to walk away” (5-6).

If you have lots to say

If you are quoting more than four lines of text, introduce the quote with a colon, start a new paragraph, indent 10 spaces from the left and right, and don’t use quotation marks.

If you are quoting four or more lines of poetry, do the same, but make sure you start a new line when the poet does.

I love Ogden Nash’s poem “The Kangaroo”:

O Kangaroo, O Kangaroo,
Be grateful that you’re in the zoo,
And not transmuted by a boomerang
To zestful, tangy Kangaroo meringue.

Finally, you will need to integrate your quotations and your citations into your writing. Following are some examples of how this is properly done. Note that your citations (the parenthesis that follows the quote) include the last name of the author and the page number where the reader can find the quote.

1. One major reason Ohio State has a superior football program is because, “It pulls from superior feeder schools” (Jones, 13).
2. President Obama acknowledges the importance of English: “ If I had not done my English homework, I would not be president of the United States” (45).

The Works Cited Page

Finally, you may use Noodlebib or any other tool, but following is an example of a how your works cited might look:

Works Cited

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice in Wonderland*. London: Puffin Books, 1997. Print.

Rortharg, Anne. "How Wonderful is the Colon." *Incredible Grammar!* Grammar

Games, Inc. 28 Nov., 2003. Web. 15 March 2010.

<<http://RoarwithGrammar/resource/747/08/>>

Wouk, Herman. "Contemporary Authors Online." 2000. The Gale Group. 7 July 2001.

<http://www.powerlibrary.nte/cgi-bin/CentreCo/pwr_auth.pl>.

Some teachers do not want you to include the URL; I would like you to do so.

Note:

1. You will have the title Works Cited and it should be centered.
2. All entries are left flush and in alphabetical order. If you need additional lines for an entry, indent 5 spaces.
3. Your Works Consulted page will be just like this one, but it will have the title Works Consulted.

If you have any questions, visit the SCASD library page or go to the Purdue Owl website!!!!

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