

MLA 9 – In-text Citations

- In-text citations let the reader know the precise location(s) of the work that you're citing in your text.
- They are used when you paraphrase or directly quote someone else's idea(s) / work / facts / creation in your own text.
- Citations are not required for well-known quotations, proverbs, or information that is common knowledge.
- In-text citations are enclosed in (), usually at the end of the sentence or paragraph. Period goes after the ().
- Multiple citations for one idea can be grouped together, separated by a ;.

Parenthetical In-Text Citation – the author's name (or source title) is not used in the text

Print Resources: usually, author's last name and page number

- author is known
 - last name and page number (Montero 37)
- author unknown
 - title (shortened form if long) and page number ("Curie" 216) – article (Curie 46) – book

Web Resources: use the first item in the Works Cited entry; for most, page numbers are not provided. If paragraph numbers are provided, use "par." or "pars."

- author is known
 - last name only (Lavallee)
- author is unknown
 - usually, title ("Canadian Pacific Railway" par. 4)

For both:

- more than one author with same last name
 - first initial, last name and page number (D. Francis 12)
- 2 authors
 - last names and page number (Daintith and Hammond 83)
- multiple authors (3 or more)
 - first author's last name et al. and page number (Russell et al. 23)
- more than one resource from same author
 - author's last name, title (note use of comma) (Lavalee, "Canadian Pacific Railway")
- article titles are enclosed in " "; book titles are in *italics* ("Curie" 216) – article (*Curie* 46) – book
- when a title is to be used, if it is long, it may be shortened
 - begin with the word the title is alphabetized with
 - use first phrase or word if it's a clear enough link to the citation
 - The Double Vision: Language and Meaning in Religion -- Double Vision
 - Traveling in the Breakdown Lane: A Principle of Resistance for Hypertext – Traveling
 - Under the Volcano -- Under

Narrative In-Text Citation – the author's name (or source title) is used in the text

the page number(s) are given in the ()

- In focusing on seaweeds, Swiminer argues that these "nutrient dense and health promoting" plants must be part of a more sustainable solution to "repairing ... broken food systems" (173)

For further information, see the following online citation guides:

SFU: <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/cite-write/citation-style-guides/mla#parenthetical-in-text-citations>

UBC: <https://guides.library.ubc.ca/MLAHome#s-lg-box-16339664>