

## MLA – In-Text Citations:

### ⚡ Basic Format

The basic format for MLA in-text citation is as follows:

(Author's Last Name\_Page Number)

e.g., One author claims that "no one is concerned with this issue" (Jones 45).

If the author's last name appears in the citation, then only a page number is required:

e.g., "Howard Jones argues that 'no one is concerned with this issue'" (45).

### ⚡ Multiple Authors

Multiple authors are cited in a similar way, although both names are included, and joined by the word "and":

e.g., (Cortez and Jones 56)

For more than three authors, use the first author's last name, followed by the abbreviation "et al.":

e.g., (Cortez et al. 378)

### ⚡ Different Authors with the Same Last Name

When citing different authors with the same last name, include enough information so as to be able to differentiate them:

e.g., (H. Jones 48); (R. Jones 36)

### ⚡ More Than One Work by the Same Author

If you are citing more than one work by the same author, a combination of several of these methods is needed. For instance, if you have used two sources by the author Howard Jones, a book called *The Man with the Horns*, and a magazine article called "The Destruction of the American Mind," you might use the following:

(Jones, *Man* 475); (Jones, "Destruction" 34)

### ⚡ Group Authors

When identifying corporate authors, use the same format, but substitute the group name:

e.g., (Modern Language Association 68)

The MLA Handbook also recommends that long group names be placed in the text itself, so as to avoid unwieldy in-text citations:

e.g., "The Society for the Greater Advancement of the Common Good insists that 'all people have a right to free health care'" (47).

### ⚡ No Author Available

If no author is available, use a short form of the title (the shortest form that will allow you to recognize the work properly). For instance, if you were working with an article called "Thirty Reasons to Spay Your Pet," you might use the following:

("Thirty Reasons" 26)

If you were working with a book with no author called *Belief in the Supernatural*, you might use:

(*Belief* 567)

### ⚡ Source within a Source

If you are citing a source that is found within another source, use the abbreviation "qtd. in." For instance if you want to cite musician Miles Davis as he appears in a Nat Hentoff article, you would use the following format:

(Davis, qtd. in Hentoff 34)