

# MLA Bibliography Guide

*from the Clark Middle School Library*

A **bibliography** is a list of the research materials you used when writing your paper. You must create a bibliography to give credit to the authors of these research materials, and to prove that your paper is not plagiarized.

A **citation** gives specific details about each resource. You must write a citation for every source you used while conducting your research. The rules for writing a citation are different for each type of resource, so follow these guidelines very carefully!

The **format** of your source is important. Different formats include print, web, DVD, etc.

**The rule:** Author's Last name, First name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Format.  
(single author)

**The example:** Altman, Linda. *California*. New York: Benchmark Books, 1997. Print.

**Books**

**Encyclopedia  
articles (print)**

**The rule:** Author's (if known) Last name, First name. "Title of Article."  
*Title of Encyclopedia*. Edition (if known). Year of Publication. Format.

**The example:** Pettingill, Olin Sewall, Jr. "Falcon and Falconry." *World Book*. 2002. Print.

**The rule:** Author's (if known) Last name, First name. "Title of Article."  
*Title of Encyclopedia*. Publisher or sponsor, Edition (if known) Year. Format. Day, Month, Year of access.

**The example:** Buchenau, Jurgen. "Mexico." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2009. Web. 5 Oct. 2009.

*If an edition is listed, follow it with the abbreviation "ed." before listing the year.*

**Encyclopedia  
articles  
(online)**

**Interview**

**The rule:** Interviewee's Last name, First name. Kind of Interview. Day  
Month Year of Interview.

**The examples:** Hensley, William. Telephone Interview. 22 Jul. 2009.  
Gomez, Scott. Personal Interview. 15 Apr. 2008.

**Magazine  
articles  
(print)**

**The rule:** Author's Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine* Day Month Year: Page number(s). Format.

**The example:** Johnson, Rich. "Stay Dry or Die!" *Outdoor Life* Feb.-Mar. 2002: 84+. Print.

**Newspaper  
articles**

**The rule:** Author's Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper* Day Month Year, edition (if listed): page number(s). Format.

**The example:** Spiess, Ben. "It's Mayor Begich by 18 Votes." *Anchorage Daily News* 15 Apr. 2002, final ed.: A1+. Print.

**Online Databases  
(From Digital Pipeline)**

**The rule:** Author's Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Publication Name* Volume Number (if any). Issue Number. Day Month Year of Publication: Page Number(s). *Title of Database*. Format. Day Month Year of Access.

**The example:** Kurlantzick, Joshua. "Hmong Friends." *New Republic* 236.6. 5 Feb. 2007: 11-15. *Student Research Center*. Web. 5 Oct. 2009.

*When no publisher name appears on the website, write n.p. for no publisher given. When sites omit a date of publication, write n.d. for no date. If there is only a partial date, record as much as there is. For databases that do not provide pagination, write n.pag. for no pagination.*

**Web Image**

**The rule:** Artist's Last name, First name. *Title or Description of Image*. Digital Image. *Title of Web Site*. Owner or Sponsor of Image, Day Month Year of Image. Format. Day Month Year of Access.

**The example:** Pardue, Charlie. *Athabascan beading*. Digital image. *Alaska Native Heritage Center*. Alaska Native Heritage Center, 2008. Web. 6 Oct. 2009.

**Web  
Sites**

**The rule:** Author's (if known) Last name, First name. "Title of Web Page." *Title of Overall Web Site*. Publisher or Sponsor, Day Month Year of Update. Format. Day Month Year of Access.

**The example:** Obringer, Lee Ann. "How Dreams Work." *How Stuff Works*. Discovery Communications, 27 Jan. 2005. Web. 5 Oct. 2009.

*When no publisher name appears on the website, write n.p. for no publisher given. When sites omit a date of publication, write n.d. for no date. The URL for the web site is optional.*

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