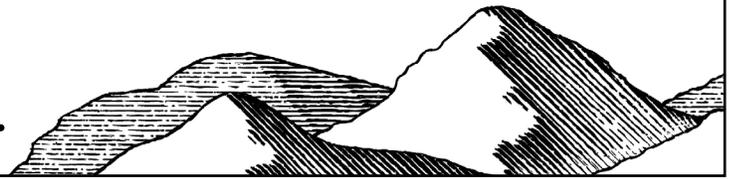


# INKWELL



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## WHY WE CITE:

### MAKING HAY

MICHAEL RADELICH

&

## HOW TO ATTAIN ENLIGHTENMENT THROUGH POSITIVE MLA CITATION

LADAI DAMA

There are a few good reasons to cite. The first reason, which is repeated by many a high school teacher and college professor, is to avoid plagiarism. Good citation can save a lot of trouble as well as help legitimize your own writing in the academic establishment. Another reason that we cite is that it helps facilitate academic discourse by allowing the reader to know from where your sources originate. It is important to give credit to the thoughts of another, especially if those thoughts contributed to your own body of writing.

### QUOTING DIRECTLY

A direct quotation is a form of citation that borrows verbatim from the text. A drop quotation is a direct quotation that is put between “quotation marks” and is less than four lines long. A block quotation is a direct quotation that is more than four lines long and is indented at one tab mark or ten spaces. In MLA and APA, both forms of direct quotation require a sentence that introduces the quotation, with the quotation as a part of that introductory sentence. A direct quotation cannot stand alone.

**Correct Direct Quotation Introduction:**

The author said, “Your mom likes to eat cheese” (Giblee 33).

**Incorrect Direct Quotation Introduction:**

The author made a joke about your mom. “Your mom likes to eat cheese” (Giblee 33).

## QUOTING INDIRECTLY

An indirect quotation is when the writer borrows the meaning of the text without using the exact words of its author. Indirect quotations often refer to paraphrasing and summarizing and should not be put in quotation marks.

## SUMMARIZING VS PARAPHRASING

Summarizing takes the meaning of a text and reduces it to a few basic points for brevity. Paraphrasing retains the approximate length and full meaning of the text while changing the language for the purpose of clarity. Whether you summarize or paraphrase, citation is still required. While summary can require one or more in-text citations, paraphrasing must have citations for every major idea introduced by the original author.

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the absolute disregard for honoring the words and ideas of another. It is stealing. The approach to teaching plagiarism in most guides is to tell you how to avoid it, but not what it is. At the Writing Center, we advocate awareness of plagiarism.

Well, here it is:

1. Failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas.
2. Failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
3. Failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words. (Hacker 359)

## MLA OR APA?

Usually your professor will assign a specific type of citation to use, such as MLA, or APA. But sometimes you are given the choice as to which one you prefer. This guide will help you decide which form of citation best suits your focus.

## MLA

Modern Language Association citation is the most commonly used form in Evergreen liberal arts classes, including cultural studies, literature, language, and history. MLA lends itself well to literature essays because it is easily used for both paraphrasing and direct quotations within texts

## APA

The American Psychology Association style of citation is widely accepted in the social sciences and sciences. This form lends itself well to annotated bibliographies.

## MORE ON CITATION

Here are some links to citation generators and online citation info:

**Diana Hacker Online (Definitive Quick Reference Guide to Citation)**

[www.dianahacker.com](http://www.dianahacker.com)

**Knite Cite (Citation Generator)**

<http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/index.php>

The following essays and their reference pages are both, at once, explanations and examples of proper usage of MLA and APA citation. While the information contained in these essays is all bonafide and taken from the following texts, all the citations within the articles are parodies.

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association;*

*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. Sixth Edition;*

*A Writer's Reference. Sixth Edition.*

For complete references, see final works cited page.

Making Hay of APA

Michael Radelich  
APA Citation Rules  
Dr. Knotty Pines  
August 18, 2008

APA Style demands that you include a cover page (and sometimes an abstract) for your essay. Center in the middle of your cover page the essay's complete title. Then centered at the bottom of the page, on separate lines, list fully your name, the college course, the professor's name, and the date. The header in the upper right corner of every page consists of the first two to three words of your essay's complete title, followed by five spaces, and then the page number. The abstract appears on the next page, is titled "Abstract," is meant to be a quick overview of your essay, and should be less than 120 words.

Start your essay proper on the next page. In her groundbreaking work on citation, *Reference This*, Dr. T. J. Kicks (2003) claimed, "don't panic if you are worried about how to cite a single book by a single author using APA citation standards" (p. 10). On the other hand, as another prominent CC (or Citation Critic) noted, "You can also do it this way if you don't mention the author's name in your prose" (Dunkirk, 1987, p. 456). But what, indeed, did a famous Villanova critic with the dubious first name of Kierkegaard say about "the hubbub surrounding the issue of citing long and tedious quotations from more than one page of a text?" (Ufferbaum, 1987, pp. 56- 57).

If you're using a book by three to five authors, you'll want "to list all the authors the first time you cite a source, taking great care to punctuate it deliberately and carefully" (Zucchini, Squash, Cee, Deem, & Erg, 1876), and then "for any future references from the same text, just simplify the technique by using only the first author's name followed by 'et al,' carefully punctuated" (Zucchini et al., 1876). But what if you do not know who wrote the text you are citing, such as information from a pamphlet, or from an organization's glossy End of Year report? Fallen-arch expert Janice Jacks said, "Never fear. Simply use the pamphlet or report's full organization name the first time" (Shoelaces Anonymous of Greater Hartford [SAGH], 2001), and then "simply abbreviate the organization's name thereafter as an acronym" (SAGH, 2001).

"Personal communications, letters, and interviews are referenced in-text," as an esteemed colleague told me weeks ago over lunch (U. Perchance, interview, May 3, 2003).

"Sure, fine and good," said Yung and Fang (1998), and added, "but what might you write if you do not know the precise pages the quote comes from due to your text being of the unpaginated variety? Use the paragraph number, counted from the beginning of the text" (para. 44). So then, picture this—you're using two books by the same author (published in the same year!) and the quote you are using doesn't come from the author's first novel, *The Dough of Bread*, but rather comes from his second novel, *All Ye Yeast, Rise Up!*, both published in 2003. "It's simple," claimed those novels' author Robert Fenton (2005): if citing from *Dough* by Fenton (2003a), just put "the year and a lower-case letter (beginning with "a," then "b," etc.) after the author's name." If citing from *Yeast* by Fenton (2003b), then use the next letter, and so on, listing chronologically on the works cited page, starting with the oldest.

Then there are the times you need to quote what someone in their book cites that is actually cited from another book they have read! "Wow!" elucidated Herman Nickels (1991) in his book *Confused? Me Neither!* When he discussed indirect quoting, Nickels told the reader that his ex-Army bud Freeway Jones once told him to "Stop worrying about this damned APA stuff and get back out there in the field!" (as cited in Nickels, 1991, p. 345). Hmmph!!

Misspellings in texts you are citing from: what to do, what to do?! A. X. Emerson (1987) said, “If you come across a misspelling [*sic*] of some soart [*sic*], it’s easie [*sic*] to note” (45). You can also use brackets around a word to clarify, alter a word of, or add a word to, the quotation you are citing if it does not grammatically fit into your sentence, as V. Gassill (2008) claimed her mentor J.K. Hershman taught her: “Hershie always [told] me to do it [bracketing words] with much care [and diligence]” (342).

And that’s it! Your supremely simple and clear guide to APA styling is now complete! Just “write away, right away, and your essay will be sparkling, complete, and correctly cited!” (Stickler, 1984, p. 45).

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Film or video recording	Tiso, N. (Producer), & Allen, W. (Director). (2000). <i>Knotty pines</i> [Motion picture]. (Available from INGEST films, 2323 Narrowway, Suite C2, New York, NY 10001)
Report from private organization	Bayonne, New Jersey Chicken Wing Association. (1987). <i>Wishbones vs. turkey-noses for porcine-intolerant farmers</i> . (3rd. ed.). Trenton: BNJCWA Printing.
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Article in a scholarly journal with continuous pagination	Emerson, A. X. (1978). <i>The fundamentals of breathing while swimming in consomme</i> . <i>Journal of Comparative Soupology</i> , 43, 827-834.
Republished book	Gassill, V. (1988). The way to hell. In J. Kutoff (Ed. & Trans.) <i>Anthology of bad places</i> . London: Charing Cross Press. (Original work published 1956)
Document from an internet site	Gutstein, H. (2006, May). <i>Investigation on holding a mallard captive while driving</i> . Retrieved August 23, 2006, from <a href="http://duck.car.soc.unl.edu/crazy/duck_car_text.htm">http://duck.car.soc.unl.edu/crazy/duck_car_text.htm</a>
Article in a journal that pages each issue separately	Humdrum, R. F. (2007). The eclipse of the coalminer and the canary. <i>Birds Against Work Monthly</i> , 13 (16), 34-37.
Book by a single author/ Two or more books by the same author	Kicks, T. J. (2003). <i>Feet and their toes: The fallen arch</i> . Hartford: Arch Press. Kicks, T. J. (2005). <i>The revolt of toes: Nailed!</i> Hartford: Arch Press.

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Television episode	Retread, W. (Writer) & Dimmness, T. (Director). (1993). Bonnie eats a frog [Television series episode]. In B. Turnbull (Producer), <i>Amphibious meals</i> . Los Angeles: Columbia Broadcasting Society.
Article in a newspaper	Ufferbaum, K. L. (2003, August 26). What to do about the hangnail that hides. <i>The Boston Globe</i> , pp. D1, D4-D5.
Work in an anthology	Yuban, U. (1967). The art of instant coffee. In F. G. Cuppa (Ed.), <i>Drinking for breakfast: Hot stuff!</i> (pp 76-103). Kalamazoo: Bucks Press.
Edited book no author	Yung, K. V., & Fang, E. B. (Eds.). (1998). <i>Cheese of color: Psychological implications of whey-induced interaction</i> . San Francisco: Curds Publishers.
Books by two or more authors	Zuchinni, L., & Squash, Y. (2004). <i>Tables Made of Vegetables</i> . Louisville: Cellulose Printing.

Dama 1  
Ladai Dama  
Prof. Goddhattha Sitama  
Buddhist Psychotherapy 101  
December 8, 2008

### How to Attain Enlightenment Through Positive MLA Citation

Since 1883, the Modern Language Association has been guiding students on the righteous path of citation so that every author can receive credit for his or her ideas. There are, however, a few rules to live by that can save you from the terrible bowels of plagiarism and the violation of sanctimonious intellectual property laws. The golden rule of academic writing is, when in doubt, cite, both in-text and at the end of a paper.

Begin your paper with your name, and be sure to make a left alignment for your heading; as it is written in the MLA Guide, so should you do. Beneath your name, your professor's should be written, for no one attains enlightenment without the wisdom of others. In addition, you should write your course of study and when the paper is due, to mark the time and place of your journey toward citational bliss. Any MLA master requires no title page, but only a modest center-aligned title at the beginning of your text. A simple size 12 Times New Roman font should be employed while recording your reflections and insights in any MLA work.

According to the writings of MLA masters-passed, an in-text citation should be used "for any borrowed idea or formation of ideas" (Smeagol 77-80). If you wish to quote directly from the wisdom of other authors, quotation marks should be used at the beginning and end of the borrowed text, a space, then an open parenthesis, the author's name, the page, and a closed parenthesis followed by a period if you wish to end your sentence. Like any man, a direct quotation cannot stand-alone; it must be adjoined to an introductory sentence. If the quotation is not grammatically compatible with your sentence, [brackets] may be used to augment the quotation so that it fits. It is not necessary to put any sentence in quotation marks unless it is taken verbatim from the text. The MLA guides also refer to paraphrases and summaries as borrowed ideas that need citation (Babar 43-46). The teachings of MLA masters say that any paraphrase or summary should be followed by the author's name and pages touched on, within parentheses and followed by a period.

According to famed citation master Sarah Balmoral, "If you wish to refer to the author's name in any sentence and you're using just one book from that author, the author's name is not required in parentheses at the end of a paraphrase, quotation, or summary, but the relevant page numbers are" (7).

When you're cast into doubt because you wish to use two books by the same author and the quote you are using doesn't come from the author's first novel (*The Dough of Bread* 83), but rather comes from his second novel (*All Ye Yeast, Rise Up!* 78), do not be afraid! For both of those works share the same author, Robert Fenton. The first time you use either book, simply use the italicized title in parentheses instead of the author, followed by the page number. Any subsequent times

use “the most easily recognizable and significant word from the book’s title to distinguish for the reader whence the quote comes” (Yeast 345).

On the road to mastering citation, you will encounter many quotations, the length of which are mysterious and unpredictable. On the one hand, there will be the simple drop quotation, but when a piece of text is four or more lines, it shall be known as a “block quotation.” Block quotations require no quotation marks, and should be set at one “tab” or a ten-space left aligned margin. As B. F. Marvelosa said:

Any direct quotation, including block quotations, should be integrated into the introducing sentence and cannot stand alone as its own sentence, and therefore should be introduced with a colon. The setting off of the text performs the same function as quotation marks. The block of text will include the same citation used for a common drop quotation, except that there will be no parentheses around the author’s name and the citation and the ending punctuation will go at the end of the sentence rather than the end of the citation (36).

Even some of the most sage wisdom comes from unpaginated scrolls. In this case, you will count the paragraphs and in parentheses, after the author’s name, write “par.” and then the corresponding paragraph’s number. This is also the method for citing ancient rhymes and poetry, except that the word “line” is used in parentheses instead of “par.”

Modern chronicles such as newspapers will quote others in interviews and other works as a secondary source in reviews. In this case, “you will want to cite both the speaker of the wisdom and the one who records it” (Abbadabba qtd. in X-treme Quilting 3: 496). When more than three authors pool their wisdom into a single text, you will want to record merely the first author and then refer to the others as “et al.” (Narr et al. 425-33). When many people come together to form a foundation that puts out publications or press releases, you will need to write out the name of the foundation, the first time you use it (American Cheese Foundation). Subsequent times, you may refer to it in acronym form (ACF).

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