

When documentation is not needed:

You do not need to use parenthetical documentation when “information and ideas you deem broadly known by your readers and widely accepted by scholars, such as the basic biography of an author or the dates of a historical event, can be used without documentation” (MLA Handbook, 59).

## MLA Style Parenthetical Documentation “In Text Citations”

- When you incorporate another’s ideas in your paper, you need to identify the source and location within your paper either in the text or in parenthesis.
- The standard format is to use the author’s last name and page number or numbers.
- Parenthetical notation does not replace a works cited page.
- The parenthetical references need to match the entries in the works cited page at the end of your paper.
- See this website for more info: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>



MLA Citation Type	General Rule	Example
1 author	Use author's last name and page number	(Duncan 80).
2 authors	Use author's last names in the order they appear on the resource	(Nelson and Linek 57-8).
More than 3 authors	Give all last names and page number for 3 authors OR First author's last name, et al., page number for 4+ authors	(Johnson, Croft, and Price 215). OR (Johnson et al. 182-83).
No author	Use full title (if brief) and page number OR A shortened version of the title and page number ***underline the title if it's a book, use quotation marks if it's an article	( <i>Facts About Israel</i> 15). OR ("How Companies Are" 625-630).
More than 1 author with the same last name	Add author's 1 <sup>st</sup> initial	(M. Smith 102) and (J. Smith 47).
Corporate/agency author	Use author's name (it will most likely be the name of the corporation or agency) followed by page number	(NTSB, Most Wanted List). ***it is acceptable to shorten corporate names like National Transportation Safety Board, that are widely known
Multivolume work	Use author's last name followed by volume number followed by a colon, one space, and page number	(Wilson 2: 310).