

# Grades 6- 12 MLA 2009 Changes

Compiled by Kristin Gardner and Stephanie Horton August 2009

This past April, a new edition of the MLA Handbook was released. With it come some general changes to the format used within the research paper and within the works cited page. A page of common entries has been included, as well as, a sample first page and work cited page to illustrate these changes.

## Within the Research Paper

- **No title page is to be used for the cover of the research paper.**
- **No change has been made in heading, spacing, or appearance of the paper.** The style sheet still calls for 12 point standard typeface, double-spaced from the heading through the work cited page, including the running header with the page number in the upper right-hand corner.
- Titles listed within the text are to be *italicized*, not underlined.
- For long quotes that are more than four lines, indent an additional 1 inch from the standard left margin. The long quote is to remain double-spaced.
- **It is no longer required to use two spaces after a period.** Be consistent in using either one or two spaces after a period within the research paper.

## Within the Work Cited Page

- **All underlines have been changed to italics.** Book, database, magazine, and periodical titles are to now be *italicized*.
- **A description of “medium” has been added to each entry.** For example, “Print,” “PDF file,” “Digital,” or “Web” is assigned to indicate what format the cited material is: paper copy, digitized, electronic form, or Internet source.
- **URLs are no longer required in a web cite citation.** However, if the material can not be found using a standard search of the topic, article title, or article author, the URL should be included.
- **Database names, but not the server, are now to be used.** For instance, *Opposing Viewpoints* will appear in the entry, but Gale Group will not be added.
- **Formats have been simplified with fewer type forms to follow.**
- **If two or more entries have the same author, use three hyphens to replace the author’s name.** Follow the hyphens with a period, then the title of the work, and all other publication information following MLA format.
- **There is no longer a citation for encyclopedia.** Use the format for an article in a reference book to cite an encyclopedia.
- **If no dates or publisher are available for required citations, use proper abbreviations.** For example if no date is available, put n. d. where the date should be. If no publisher is given, put n. p. where the publisher should be.
- **For periodical publications and/or electronic databases, if no pagination is listed, use n. pag.**

## Ten Guidelines to Follow for Research Papers

- 1) **All** writing assignments must be turned in according to MLA guidelines.
- 2) Assignments must be **typed, double-spaced** using 12 point font Times New Roman.
- 3) **Leave one or two spaces after a period or other concluding punctuation mark.** Which ever you use, be consistent!
- 4) You must have a **heading in the top left-hand corner of the first page.** Include your name, your teacher's name, class name with period number, and the date each on separate lines.
- 5) **Center the title.** Do not italicize or underline your title, put it in quotation marks or boldface.
- 6) **Be sure to have a running header,** which includes your last name and page number in the upper right-hand corner.
- 7) **Double-space** the entire paper, including the heading and the title.
- 8) **Parenthetical citations** must be inserted in the body of the research paper according to MLA guidelines.
- 9) **The last page of the research paper will be your works cited page!**
- 10) As always **proofread**, your work before submitting your final copy!

**BE SURE TO SEE THE EXAMPLES AT THE END OF THE PACKET!**



For more information on MLA Guideline see the following links:

- The OWL at Purdue: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>
- Excellent college-level sample:  
[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090216023752\\_557.pdf](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090216023752_557.pdf)

## MLA Work Cited Guidelines and Samples

- **The work cited page should have the title Work Cited or Works Cited centered at the top of its own page.**
- All entries should be listed **alphabetically**.
- **Do not use bullets or numbers for the list.**
- The entire work cited page should be **double-spaced**.
- Book, database, magazine, and periodical titles are to be *italicized*, while article titles should have **quotation marks**.
- The **second line**, as well as any other line after the first, should be indented as in the examples below. This is called a **hanging indent**.
- Be consistent in using either **one or two spaces after a period** within the work cited page.



### Books

**Author.** *Title of book.* City of publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

#### **One author**

Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer.* New York: Dutton, 1998. Print.

#### **Two authors**

Cummings, Pat, and Linda Cummings. *Talking with Adventures.* Washington: National Geographic, 1998. Print.

#### **No author given**

*Webster's Word Histories.* Springfield: Merriam, 1989. Print.

#### **An editor but no single author**

Silverberg, Robert, ed. *The Science Fiction Hall of Fame.* Garden City: Doubleday, 1970.  
Print.

## **Reference Books, including Encyclopedia**

**\* When citing widely used reference books, especially those that frequently appear in new editions, do not give full publication information.**

**Author of Article (if given). "Article Title." *Title of Book*. Edition. Year of Publication.**

**Medium.**

Lesko, Leonard H. "Pyramids." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. 2001 ed. 2001. Print.

**\* When citing specialized reference works, however, especially those that have appeared in only one edition, give full publication information.**

**Author of Article (if given). "Article Title." *Title of Book*. Edition. City of Publication:**

**Publisher, Year. Medium.**

Allen, Anita L. "Privacy in Health Care." *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. 3rd ed. Vol. 4. New York: Macmillan-Thomson, 2004. Print.

## **Magazines**

**Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine* Date: Page(s). Medium.**

Talcott, Richard. "Great Comets." *Astronomy* May 2004: 36-41. Print.

## **Newspapers**

**Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper* Date, Edition: Page(s). Medium.**

Jeromack, Paul. "This Once, a David of the Art World Does Goliath a Favor." *New York Times* 13 July 2002, late ed.: B7+. Print.

## Electronic Databases

\* If no page numbers are found, use: n. pag. to show that no page numbers are given.

**Author.** "Article Title." *Title of Periodical*. Volume and issue number Date of publication  
**Page numbers.** *Title of database*. **Medium.** **Date of Access.**

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture*. 10.3 (2000):  
n. pag. *Project Muse*. Web. 5 June 2008.

## Websites

**Author.** "Article Title." *Title of the Website*. **Publisher or sponsor of the website, Date of  
electronic publication.** **Medium of Publication.** **Date of Access.**

- 1) **Name of the author (if given)**
- 2) **Title of the work (italicized if the work is independent; in quotation marks if the work is part of a larger work)**
- 3) **Title of the overall website (italicized), if distinct from the title of the work**
- 4) **Version or edition used (if available)**
- 5) **Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use n. p.**
- 6) **Date of publication (day, month, and year, as available); if nothing is available, use n.d.**
- 7) **Medium of publication (Web, PDF file, etc.)**
- 8) **Date of access (day, month, and year)**

Green, Joshua. "The Rove Presidency." *The Atlantic.com*. Atlantic Monthly Group, Sept. 2007.  
Web. 15 May 2008.

"Interview of Charles Bernstein." *Dalkey Archive Press*. Dalkey Archive P, n.d. Web. 21 Aug.  
2007.

## Pictures or Images (also known as Digital Files)

**Author.** "Title of the Picture or Image." **Year.** **Publication information for the printed  
source material if available.** **Medium.**

Delano, Jack. *At the Vermont State Fair*. 1941. Lib. of Cong., Washington. JPEG file.

# Example Research Paper

**Running Head**  
- Your Last Name  
- Page Number

Jones 1

Your Name

Tracy Jones

Teacher's Name

Mr. K. Smith

Class and Period Number

Day

Language Art 3

Year

29 September 2009

Title Centered  
and Bold

## **The Many Facets of Taboo**

The World Book Encyclopedia defines Taboo as "an action, object, person, or place forbidden by law or culture" (Dundes).

As pointed out in the Occultopedia, another word for taboo is "tabu" a Polynesian word meaning that which is banned. The Occultopedia also points out that taboo is found among many other cultures including the ancient Egyptians, Jews and others ("Taboo").

Parenthetical  
Documentation

Mary Douglas has analyzed the many facets and interpretations of taboos across various cultures. In her view, taboos could be considered a kind of "brain-washing" (2549) as they are transmitted to individuals along with an entire cultural system made up of a pattern of values and norms.

Robert Deliège points out that as early as 1777, Captain James Cook reported that some chiefs in Tonga were taboo and were not allowed to behave like common people, and that the first European observers were not quite sure whether "taboo" meant "sacred" or "defiled" (Deliège).

In traditional British East Africa, between the time of puberty and marriage, a young Akamba girl must maintain an avoidance relationship with her own father (Freud 17).

Looking at taboo in a modern society, Marvin Harris gives an interesting example of the application of cultural materialism to the Hindu taboo against eating beef (qtd. in McGrath).

Double-space  
entire research  
paper.

# Example Work Cited Page

Running Head  
- Your Last Name  
- Page Number

Jones 10

## Works Cited

Title Centered  
and Bold

Hanging  
Indent

Deliège, Robert. "Untouchability - Taboos - Bibliography." *Science Encyclopedia*, 2009. Web.  
24 June 2009.

Douglas, Mary. "Taboo." *Man, Myth & Magic*. Ed. Richard Cavendish. New ed. 21 vols.  
New York: Cavendish, 1994. 2546-2549. Print.

Dundes, Alan. "Taboo." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. 2000 ed. Print.

Freud, Sigmund. *Totem and Taboo*. New York: Random, 1918. Print.

McGrath, Stacy. "Ecological Anthropology." *Anthropological Theories: A Guide Prepared by  
Students for Students*. 19 Oct. 2001. U. of Alabama. Web. 25 June 2009.

"Taboo." *Occultopedia: Encyclopedia of Occult Sciences and Knowledge*. Site created and  
designed by Marcus V. Gay. Web. 26 June 2009.

Double-space  
entire Works  
Cited page.

All entries should be listed alphabetically.

Do not use bullets or numbers for the list!