

Using MLA Citations: In- Text Citations

**MLA (Modern
Language
Association)**

**- for use in English
and Humanities**

INTEGRATING QUOTATIONS:

Short Quotations (three lines or less):

Place quotation marks around the words or lines quoted. For example:

Charles Dickens has noted, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.”

Long Quotations (four lines or more) Block Style:

1. Lines quoted are indented ten spaces on each side of the main essay / work.
2. No quotation marks are used, unless to indicate dialogue.
3. Lines of the quotation are single spaced (MLA), double spaced (APA).

MODELS FOR IN-TEXT PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS:

In the text of your paper, you must include a citation for each source of information, whether it is a paraphrase (in your own words) or a direct quotation.

One author named in introductory phrase:

Renowned historian David McCullough paints a vivid picture: “The British had been outwitted, humiliated. The greatest military power on earth had been forced to retreat by an army of amateurs; it was a heady realization” (76).

NOTE: punctuation follows citation.

Author not named in introductory text and use of direct quotation

The army retreated from Boston in disarray, making the victors realize that they had defeated the “greatest military power on earth” (McCullough 76). making the rebels realize that they had achieved a great victory (McCullough, 2001).

NOTE: punctuation follows citation.

Two or more authors

(Peterson and Dobbs 91)

(Hare, Martin, and Dawson 226-28)

Electronic and Online sources:

Because electronic database material and Internet sources generally include no numbered pages or numbered paragraphs, provide the author's name in the in-text citation. Refer to the title of the Web page or the posting if no author is provided.

In Text Citations – A Sample (MLA) Homeless Children and Crime

Homelessness among children is leading to an increase in the number of crimes committed by youth. The number of teens living on the streets of major cities has doubled in the last decade and crime rates among young people appear to be rising proportionately (Canada 126). Children, without the security of a stable place to live and secure adult relationships, can easily become disenchanted with society (Stavsky and Thompson 145). It is important however, to look at the reasons why children run away and how their experiences on the street affect their behaviour.

There seems to be disagreement among the experts as to why teens leave their homes and turn to life on the street. “Public and expert opinion offer a hodgepodge of views as to why kids run away from home” (Hynes). It seems that most runaway children are escaping abusive situations at home, and that few leave home just because they have disagreements with parents over little items like curfews and homework. One runaway states,

Although my dad had always been a drinker and a gambler, he'd never squandered our rent or savings before. Poverty soon forced us to move to Regent Park (with more than 10,000 residents, the largest public-housing complex in Canada). With the heartbreak came more drinking for both of them. Drunk, my dad couldn't work steady any more, so he'd work on and off. He'd sober up for work and tank up after work. The fights between them became more violent; he'd smack her around and she'd smack me around (Webber 156).

According to Dr. Jeffrey Palter, Executive Director of “Homes for Youth”, a government agency dealing with homeless teens, there are numerous risk factors that affect a child’s decision to leave home and become involved in criminal activity. These include poverty, violence, addictions, neglect, racism, and community apathy. He stresses, however, that “ through supporting parents, provided that the support is maintained over the long-term, the effects of poverty, community breakdown and racism on young people are greatly mitigated and delinquency thus largely prevented” (Child).

NB for MLA – you may double space “block quotations” and Works Cited entries

(Taken from TDSB, Library and Learning Resources Independent Study Guide)

**Next Podcast:
The Works Cited
Page**