MLA HANDBOOK

Ninth Edition

A FEW PRINCIPLES

Rather than a long list of rules

- Cite simple traits shared by most works.

- Remember that there is often more than one correct way to document a source.

- Make your documentation useful to readers.

- **WHO** is the author of the source? Are they qualified? Biased? Somehow related to the topic?

- **WHAT** is the source? Does it have a title? How would it be described (document, creative work, artifact)? Is it authoritative? Does it have sources?

- **HOW** was the source produced? Published? Vetted?

- **WHERE** did you find the source? Cited in another work? Commercial search engine?

- **WHEN** was the source published? Might it have been replaced?
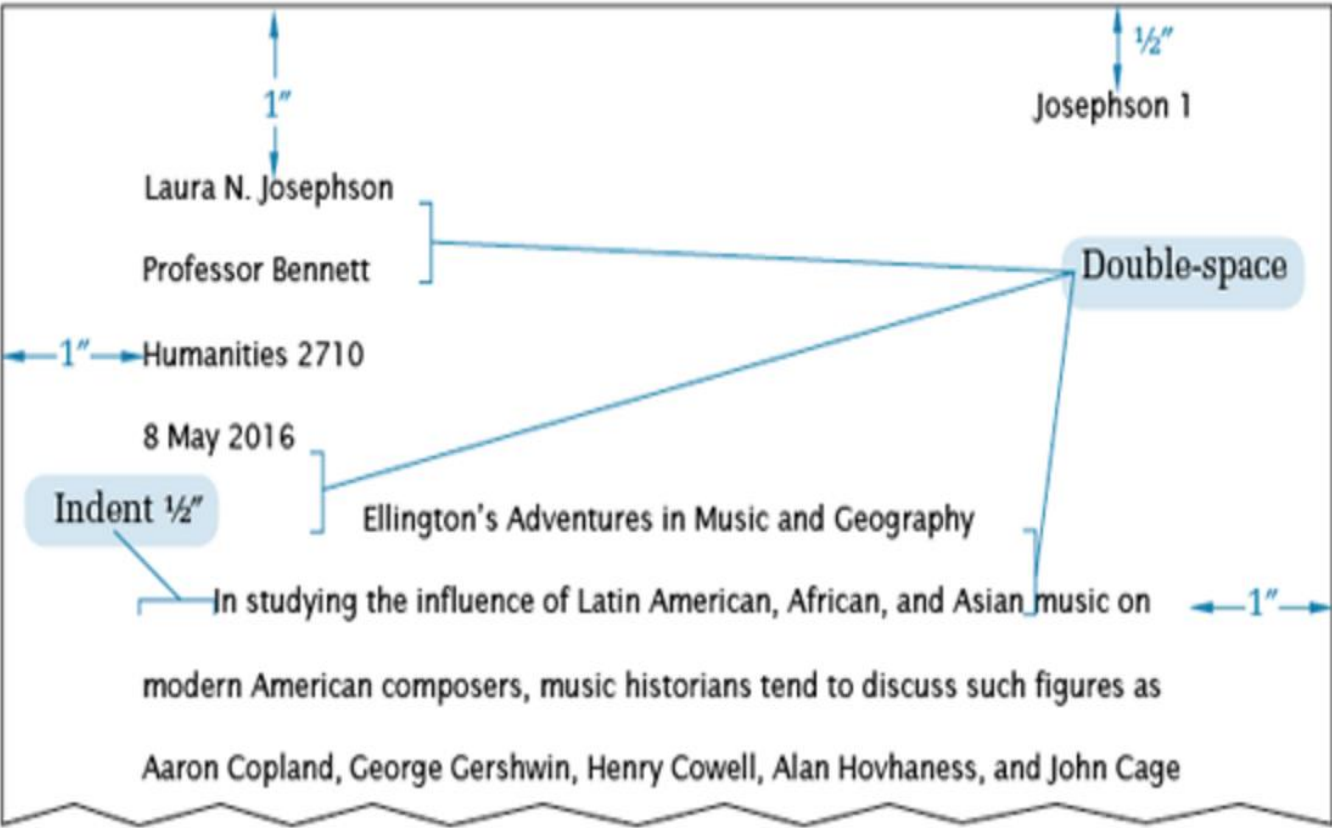
THINK

- Collect the "who", "what", "how", "where", "when" information as you discover useful works.

- Examine the work itself for the above information. Do not rely on listings found elsewhere.

- Generally, look in places where the publisher, author, or creator gives credit for the production.

SELECT

- A citation should provide a road map leading to the original source while interrupting the reader's engagement with the text as little as possible.

- MLA style has two parts:

  - A detailed entry in a list of Works Cited

  - A citation in the text: a minimal reference that directs the reader to the Works Cited entry
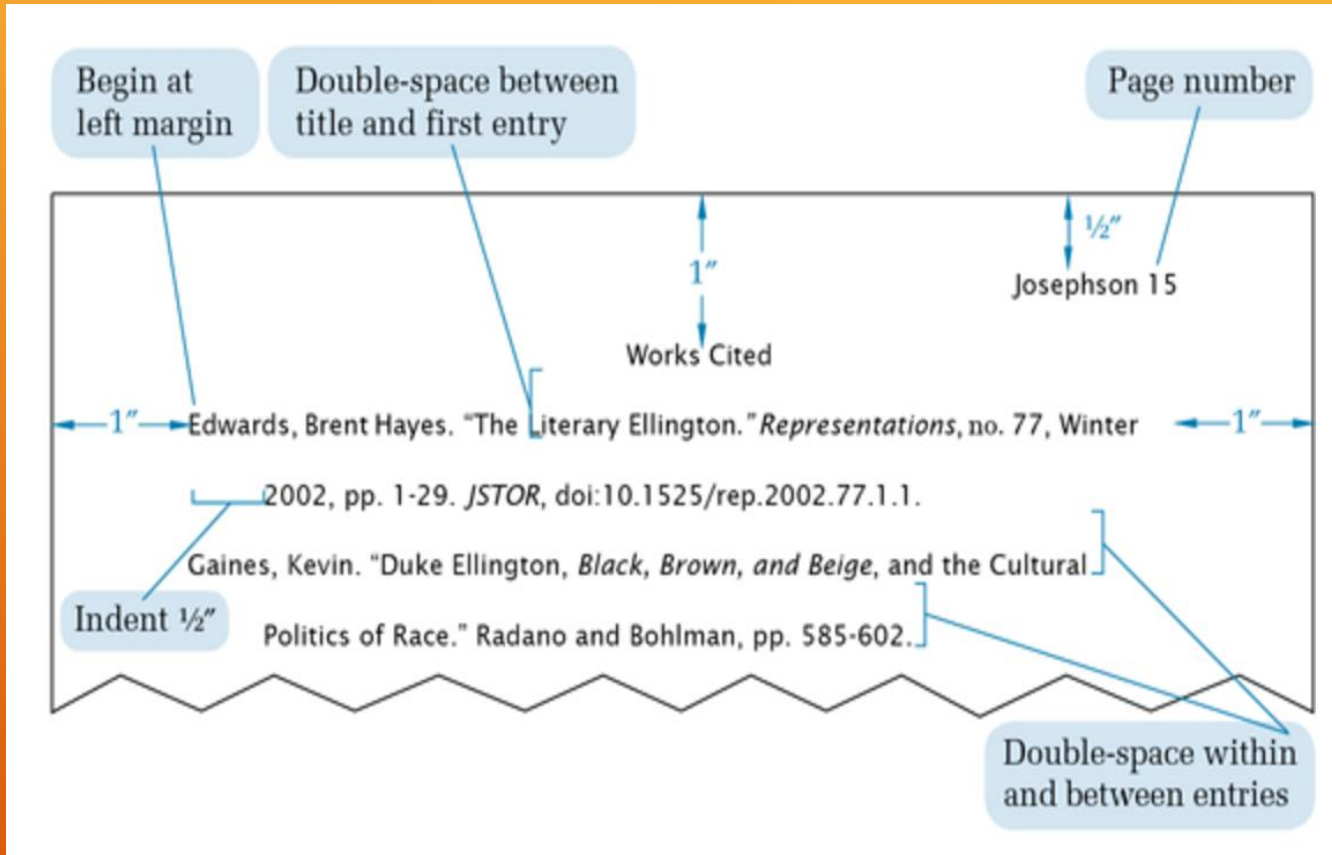
ORGANIZE

RESEARCH PAPER FORMAT

A research paper does not need a title page. Begin one inch from the top of the first page, flush with the left margin, type your name, your instructor's name, the course number, and the date on separate lines, double-spacing the lines. On a new, double-spaced line, center the title. Number all pages consecutively throughout the research paper in the upper right-hand corner, half an inch from the top, flush with the right margin. Type your last name, followed by a space, before the page number.

WORKS CITED PAGE

Begin at left margin

Double-space between title and first entry

Page number

Josephson 15

1"

½"

Works Cited

1" Edwards, Brent Hayes. "The Literary Ellington." *Representations*, no. 77, Winter 1"

2002, pp. 1-29. *JSTOR*, doi:10.1525/rep.2002.77.1.1.

Gaines, Kevin. "Duke Ellington, *Black, Brown, and Beige*, and the Cultural

Indent ½" Politics of Race." Radano and Bohlman, pp. 585-602.

Double-space within and between entries

The list of works cited appears at the end of the paper, after any endnotes. Begin the list on a new page. The list contains the same running head as the main text. The page numbering in the running head continues uninterrupted throughout. Center the title, *Works Cited,* an inch from the top of the page.

- Detailed entry in a list of Works Cited

De Souza 10

Works Cited

Adams, Luther J. "Great Migration, Causes Of." *Encyclopedia of the Great Black Migration*,

edited by Steven A. Reich, vol. 1, Greenwood Press, 2006, pp. 504–06.

Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. "New Negroes, Migration, and Cultural Exchange." Turner, *Jacob*

Lawrence, pp. 17-21.

Grossman, James R. *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration*. U of

Chicago P, 1989.

Hills, Patricia. "Jacob Lawrence's *Migration* Series: Weavings of Pictures and Texts." Turner,
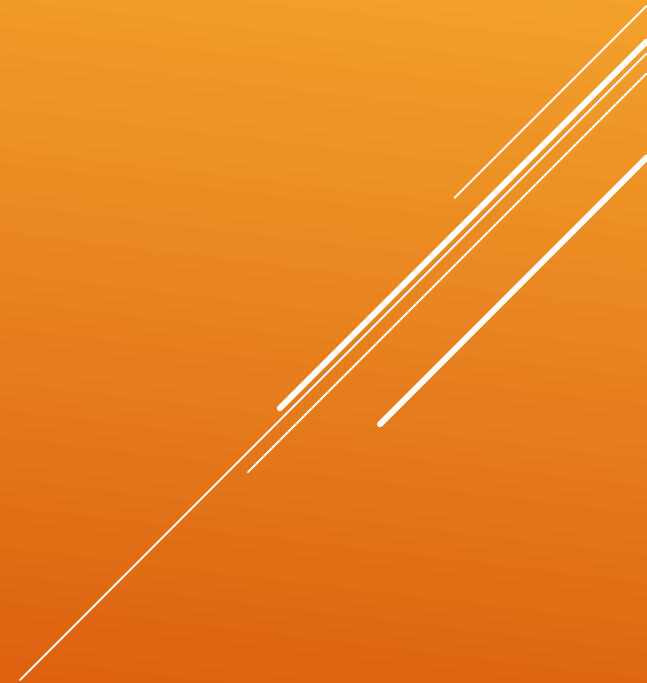
Jacob Lawrence, pp. 141-53.

- A citation in the text, a minimal reference that directs the reader to the entry.

limited means.

For the *Migration* series, Lawrence first did library research so he could understand his

subject. He wrote the captions (which make up part of the story), and then he outlined each panel

with pencil (Steele 248). His compositions do not often use traditional three-dimensional

perspective. The style of the series exhibits what Ellen Harkins Wheat calls "cubist angularity"

(62). What is most interesting is the way he painted the series (Steele 250). He started with black

DOCUMENTING YOUR RESEARCH

SAMPLES OF CITATIONS

Practice template	
Author.	Martel, Yann.
Title of source.	Life of Pi: a Novel
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	Harcourt
Publication date,	2001
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location.	

Finished citation-Book

► Martel, Yann. *Life of Pi: A Novel*. Harcourt, 2001.

Practice Template	
Author.	Richards, Mary Caroline.
Title of source.	Centering in Pottery, Poetry, and the Person.
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	2nd ed.,
Number,	
Publisher,	Wesleyan UP
Publication date,	1989
Location.	
Title of container 2,	Ebrary
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location	http://site.ebrary.com/lib

FINISHED CITATION- EBOOK

Richards, Mary Caroline. *Centering in Pottery, Poetry, and the Person.* 2nd ed., Wesleyan UP, 1989. *Ebrary,* site.ebrary.com/lib/seuniversity/detail.action?docID=10484289&p00=centering.

Practice Template	
Author.	
Title of source.	*The Bible*.
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	Authorized King James Version,
Number,	
Publisher,	Oxford UP,
Publication date,	1998.
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location	

FINISHED CITATION- BIBLE

The Bible. Authorized King James Version, Oxford UP, 1998.

Practice Template	
Author.	Heist, Greg and Sarah Tarraf.
Title of source.	"Trend Analytics: A Data-driven Path to Foresight."
Title of container 1,	*Marketing Insights*
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	Vol. 28, no. 1,
Publisher,	
Publication date,	Spring 2016,
Location.	pp. 18-19.
Title of container 2,	EbscoHost,
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location.	http://web.b.ebscohost...

FINISHED CITATION-ARTICLE WITHOUT DOI

Heist, Greg and Sarah Tarraf. "Trend Analytics: A Data-driven Path to Foresight." *Marketing Insights*, vol. 28, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 18-19. EbscoHost, web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=2&sid=8b807e8e-19f3-4a8e-8136-6779d048cdbc%40sessionmgr102&hid=116&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#AN=113873659&db=bth

Practice Template	
Author.	Grey, Dolly and Zane Grey.
Title of source.	"The Letters of Dolly and Zane Grey."
Title of container 1,	*The Missouri Review*
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	Vol. 18, no. 2
Publisher,	
Publication date,	1995
Location.	pp. 115-178
Title of container 2,	*Project Muse*
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	Doi 10.1353/mis.1995.0023
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location	http://muse.jhu.edu/article/4

FINISHED CITATION-ARTICLE WITH DOI

Grey, Dolly and Zane Grey. "The Letters of Dolly and Zane Grey." *The Missouri Review,* vol. 18, nol 2, 1995, pp. 115-178. *Project Muse,* doi 10.1353/mis.1995.0023.

Practice Template	
Author.	
Title of source.	*Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest.*
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	Performances by Johnny Depp, Keira Knightley,
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	Disney,
Publication date,	2006.
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	

FINISHED CITATION- DVD

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest. Performances by Johnny Depp, Keira Knightley, Disney, 2006.

Practice Template	
Author.	Richter, Max
Title of source.	*Vivaldi, The Four Seasons.*
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	Deutsche
Publication date,	2012
Location.	
Title of container 2,	*Alexanderstreet Classical Music,*
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	

FINISHED CITATION-MUSIC IN DATABASE

Richter, Max. *Vivaldi, the Four Seasons.* Deutsche, 2012. *Alexanderstreet Classical Music,* search.alexanderstreet.com/clmu/view/work/2572303.

Practice Template	
Author.	Russell, Tony, et al.
Title of source.	"MLA Eighth Edition: What's New and Different."
Title of container 1,	*The Purdue OWL,*
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	Purdue U Writing Lab,
Publication date,	Apr 18, 2016,
Location.	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/22/
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	

FINISHED CITATION-WEBPAGE

Russell, Tony, et al. "MLA Eighth Edition: What's New and Different." *The Purdue OWL,* Purdue U Writing Lab, 18 Apr 2016, owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/22/.

Practice Template	
Author.	Smith, Amos.
Title of source.	*Healing the Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots.*
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	Kindle,
Number,	
Publisher,	Resource Publications,
Publication date,	2013
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	

FINISHED CITATION- KINDLE EBOOK

Smith, Amos. *Healing the Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots.* Kindle, Resource Publications, 2013.

Practice Template	
Author.	
Title of source.	
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location	

FINISHED CITATION

Practice Template	
Author.	
Title of source.	
Title of container 1,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location.	
Title of container 2,	
Other contributors,	
Version,	
Number,	
Publisher,	
Publication date,	
Location	

FINISHED CITATION