

EXAMPLES OF HOW TO USE QUOTATIONS IN YOUR TEXT
MLA DOCUMENTATION STYLE
(These go in the body of your paper/report)

MLA Quotations: Internal Quotes and Quote Blending

Listing the references in the bibliography is not sufficient documentation. “You must indicate to your readers not only what works you drew from but also exactly what you used from each source and exactly where in the work you found the material. The most practical way to supply this information is to insert a brief parenthetical acknowledgment in your paper wherever you incorporate another person’s words, facts, or ideas” (Gibaldi 230-31).

This information indicates that the quotation was found on pages 230-31 of the book by Gibaldi.

Parenthetical references need not include any information which you may have included in the text itself:

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Others hold the opposite point of view (e.g., Jakobson and Waugh 210-15).

Gibaldi maintains that “to avoid interrupting the flow of your writing, place the parenthetical reference where a pause would naturally occur (preferably at the end of a sentence), as near as possible to the material documented” (233).

The page number from which you quoted material should immediately follow the final quotation mark.

MORE EXAMPLES OF HOW TO QUOTE YOUR SOURCES

Prose

For Charles Dickens the eighteenth century was both “the best of times” and “the worst of times” (35).

Joseph Conrad writes of the company manager in Heart of Darkness, “He was obeyed, yet he inspired neither love nor fear, nor even respect” (44).

If a quotation runs to more than four typed lines, set it off from your text beginning a new line, indenting ten spaces from the left margin, and typing it double-spaced, without adding quotation marks. A colon generally introduces a quotation displayed this way.

At the conclusion of Lord of the Flies Ralph and the other boys realize the horror of their actions: