COMPOSITION & CREATIVE WRITING · GRADE 11 · QUICK REFERENCE

MLA & APA Citation

Grades 7–12 · College | MLA 9 · APA 7 | 2 pages

MLA 9 core elements, in-text citations, works-cited entries and first page · APA 7 reference pattern, in-text citations, reference entries and student title page · MLA and APA side by side

1 MLA works cited 2 MLA in-text 3 MLA first page 4 APA references 5 APA in-text 6 APA title page · MLA vs APA

1 MLA 9 WORKS CITED: CORE ELEMENTS & ENTRIES

Source	Works Cited entry (MLA 9)
Book	Whitlock, Clara A. *Burhs and Books: King Alfred's Wessex*. Ridgeline Press, 2019.
Journal article (DOI)	Hale, Margaret, and Peter Ostrander. "Longships and Burhs: The Defense of Wessex." *Wessex Historical Quarterly*, vol. 12, no. 3, 2021, pp. 45–61, https://doi.org/10.5555/whq.2021.0312.
Web page	Brandt, Thomas. "How the Burhs Were Built." *Old Wessex Notes*, 6 May 2024, www.oldwessex.example/burhs.
Online video	Calder History. "Alfred at Athelney." *YouTube*, 3 Mar. 2025, www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXAMPLE123.
Bible (KJV online)	*King James Bible Online*, www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/.
Classic, e-book (public domain)	Franklin, Benjamin. *Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*. Edited by Frank Woodworth Pine, Henry Holt, 1916. *Project Gutenberg*, www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/20203.

Print Bible: *The Bible*. Authorized King James Version, Oxford UP, 1998. MLA publications use an en dash in ranges (45–61); a typed hyphen is fine in student papers.

#	Core element		Example
1	Author	.	Whitlock, Clara A.
2	Title of source	.	"How the Burhs Were Built."
3	Title of container	,	*Old Wessex Notes*,
4	Other contributors	,	Edited by F. W. Pine,
5	Version	,	King James Version,

#	Core element		Example
6	Number	,	vol. 12, no. 3,
7	Publisher	,	Ridgeline Press,
8	Publication date	,	6 May 2024,
9	Location	.	pp. 45–61. · a DOI or URL.

Use the elements that apply, **in this order**. A part of a larger whole names its **container** in italics.

Details that matter

- Authors: two, *Hale, Margaret, and Peter Ostrander*; three or more, *Brandt, Thomas, et al.*
- Title case; "quotes" for a part, *italics* for a whole.
- Months over four letters abbreviated: *Mar., Sept.*
- URLs without *https://*; DOIs keep it.

2 MLA IN-TEXT CITATIONS

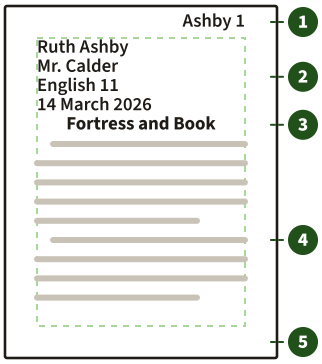
Situation	Citation
One author	(Whitlock 42) · *Whitlock argues … (42).*
Two authors	(Hale and Ostrander 50)
Three or more	(Brandt et al. 12)
No author	short title: ("How the Burhs")
No pages	(Brandt) · video: (Calder History 00:04:10–00:05:02)

Situation	Citation
Classic	(Thucydides 1.22): book and chapter
Poem · play	(lines 1–2), then (9) · (*Ham.* 3.1.56)
Bible	first (*King James Bible Online*, Ps. 119.105); then (Ps. 119.105)
Indirect	(qtd. in Whitlock 88)
Two sources	(Whitlock 42; Brandt)

Rules

- Author and page, **no comma**, no *p.*
- Period after the parentheses: "…in books" (Franklin).
- **Block quotation**: over four lines of prose or three of poetry; indent ½ in; no quotation marks.
- Bible: *Gen., Exod., Ps., Prov., Isa., Matt., Rom., Rev.*

3 MLA FIRST PAGE & WORKS CITED PAGE



First page (numbers on the mock)

- **1** Last name and page number, top right, ½ in from the top, every page.
- **2** Heading at top left: name, teacher, course, date. No title page unless asked.
- **3** Title centered, title case; no bold, italics or quotation marks.
- **4** Indent paragraphs ½ in; double-space everything.
- **5** 1 in margins; Times New Roman or another readable font, 12 pt.

Works Cited page

- New page; **Works Cited** centered, plain type.
- Alphabetize by the first word (skip *A, An, The*).
- Double-space; **hanging indent** ½ in.
- Every citation points to an entry; every entry is cited.
- Keep each source's own title style: "quotes" or *italics*.

4 APA 7 REFERENCES: PATTERN & ENTRIES

Source	Reference (APA 7)
Book	Whitlock, C. A. (2019). *Burhs and books: King Alfred's Wessex*. Ridgeline Press.
Journal article (DOI)	Hale, M., & Ostrander, P. (2021). Longships and burhs: The defense of Wessex. *Wessex Historical Quarterly, 12*(3), 45–61. https://doi.org/10.5555/whq.2021.0312
Web page	Brandt, T. (2024, May 6). *How the burhs were built*. Old Wessex Notes. https://www.oldwessex.example/burhs
Online video	Calder History. (2025, March 3). *Alfred at Athelney* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXAMPLE123
Bible (KJV online)	*King James Bible*. (2017). King James Bible Online. https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/ (Original work published 1769)
Classic, e-book (public domain)	Franklin, B. (1916). *Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* (F. W. Pine, Ed.). Henry Holt. https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/20203 (Original work published 1791)

The pattern: **Author. (Date). Title. Source.** A video's uploader is its author. Leave out a site name that repeats the author.

Authors and dates

- Last name, **initials**: *Whitlock, C. A.*
- **&** before the last author; list up to 20.
- Date after the author: *(2019). (2024, May 6). (n.d.)*

Titles

- Books, pages, videos: *italic*, **sentence case** (first word, first word after a colon, proper nouns).
- Articles: sentence case, plain.
- Journals: *Title Case*, volume italic: *12*(3).

Links

- DOI as *https://doi.org/…*, else the URL.
- No period after a URL or DOI.
- No "Retrieved from" unless the page is meant to change.

5 APA IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Situation	Citation
One author	(Whitlock, 2019) · *Whitlock (2019)*
Quotation	(Whitlock, 2019, p. 42); pp. 42–43
Two authors	(Hale & Ostrander, 2021) · *Hale and Ostrander (2021)*
Three or more	(Brandt et al., 2023), from the first time

Situation	Citation
Group author	(Wessex Heritage Society [WHS], 2022), then (WHS, 2022)
No date	(Brandt, n.d.)
No author	(*How the Burhs Were Built*, 2024): title case
No pages	(Brandt, 2024, para. 4) · video (Calder History, 2025, 4:10)

Situation	Citation
Classic	(Franklin, 1791/1916)
Bible	(*King James Bible*, 1769/2017, Psalm 119:105)
Personal talk, email	(P. Ostrander, personal communication, March 2, 2026); not in References
Two sources	(Brandt, 2024; Whitlock, 2019)

Author and **year**, with a comma; a page for every quotation. **40 words or more**: an indented block, no quotation marks. Religious works have no author; give chapter and verse with a **colon**.

6 APA TITLE PAGE & FORMAT · MLA VS APA



Student title page (numbers on the mock)

- **1** Page number top right on every page; **no running head**.
- **2** Title bold, centered, in the upper half.
- **3** Name, affiliation, course, instructor, due date, centered.
- **4** 1 in margins; double-spaced; 11 pt Calibri, Arial or Georgia or 12 pt Times New Roman.

Body and References

- Page 2 repeats the title, bold, centered; indent paragraphs ½ in.
- Headings: **1** centered bold; **2** flush left bold; **3** flush left *bold italic*.
- **References** on a new page, bold, centered; alphabetical; hanging indent ½ in.

MLA or APA at a glance

	MLA 9	APA 7
In the text	(Whitlock 42)	(Whitlock, 2019, p. 42)
In the list	Whitlock, Clara A. … 2019.	Whitlock, C. A. (2019). …
Titles	Title Case	Sentence case (journals Title Case)
List · first page	Works Cited · heading block	References · title page
Links	no *https://* (DOIs keep it)	full https:// URL or DOI
Used in	literature, languages, humanities	social sciences, education, nursing

Use the style your teacher names. Example sources are **fictional**, except the KJV and Franklin (public domain). The Grade 11 course also teaches **Chicago** for history contests.