This template explains how to write a paper in MLA format. In MLA format, you document research in parenthetical citations. This allows you to “acknowledge your sources by typing brief parenthetical citations in your text to an alphabetical list of works that appears at the end of the paper” (Gibaldi 142). Notice that in this brief citation the period goes after the parenthesis. You will use the author’s last name or a shortened title for unsigned works. If you used the key information (author’s last name or the title of an unsigned work) in your text, do not repeat it in the parenthesis. Gibaldi explains in a longer quotation that needs to be indented:

The information in your parenthetical references in the text must match the corresponding information in the entries in your list of works cited.

For a typical works-cited-list entry, which begins with the name of the author (or editor, translator, or narrator), the parenthetical reference begins with the same name. . . . If the work is listed by title, use the title, shortened or in full. (94)

After the end of the essay, begin the Works Cited page at the top of the next page. Items in a Works Cited page will be alphabetized by the first word of each entry (author’s last name or title of work) and will utilize hanging indents.
Works Cited


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true&db=nlebk&AN=795896&site=ehost-live.


Each entry uses a hanging indent. Lines after the first are indented a half-inch. Alphabetize citations by first element.

Double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around.

For more help with citations, please visit our research guide:

http://libguides.mcckc.edu/citations


Text Source: The Writing Center at Collin College