In-Text Citations -- MLA

An in-text citation is a brief reference to a source you used for your paper. It is put in parentheses after a quote or a paraphrase, and it should refer the reader to an entry with more details in the list of works cited. If the author’s name is already included in the sentence, then only put the page number in the parentheses.

In-Text Citations with the Author and Page Number
"Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth" (Thoreau 219).

Thoreau wanted the truth more “than love, than money, than fame” (219).

Above all else Thoreau wanted the truth (219).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

If there is no author for an article, then use the article title in quotation marks and the page number for the parenthetical citation. Article titles can be shortened for the parenthetical citation.

In-Text Citation for a Print Source with No Known Author
Lawmakers agree "that the forms families must fill in to apply for student financial aid are too complicated" ("Zero Tuition" 29).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

If there is no page number, then simply include the author’s last name without a page number.

In-Text Citation for an Article from a Website with No Page Numbers
“Before airplanes and drones existed, people owned everything above and below their land” (Sneed).

Entry on the Works Cited page:
If there are two authors, then use both authors’ names.

**In-Text Citation for a Work by Two Authors**
In the early years “you didn’t have to purchase radio frequencies” (Jackson and Haskins 55).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

If there are three or more authors, then use the first author’s last name, et al.

**In-Text Citation for a Work by Three or More Authors**
Your grades from prerequisite courses “are positive predictors of graduation” (Seago, et al. 494).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

If a quotation is four or more lines of text then use a block quotation indented .5 inches.

**A Block Quotation**
The agony of not having access to dental care was intense:

The Angel of the candy counter had found me out at last, and was exacting excruciating penance for all the stolen Milky Way, Mounds, Mr. Goodbars and Hersheys with Almonds. I had two cavities that were rotten to the gums. The pain was beyond the bailiwick of crushed aspirins or oil of cloves. Only one thing could help me, so I prayed earnestly that I’d be allowed to sit under the house and have the building collapse on my left jaw (Angelou 185).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

Quotes from online videos should include the time the quote begins in the video.

**In-Text Citation for an Online Video**
“The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle.” (Jobs, 8:34).

Entry on the Works Cited page:

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