

## A Brief Overview of MLA Bibliographic Format (updated 12/10)



1. Double-space within and between entries.
2. Alphabetize entries by the author's last name. If the work has no author, alphabetize by the first word in title (skip "A," "An," or "The").
3. All margins are 1".
4. The first line of each entry is not indented; all other lines within entries are indented 5 spaces or ½ inch.

*First entry is an online newspaper; second is an online journal; third is an online image.*

### Sample Bibliography

"2000-Year-Old Mummies Found in China Still Wearing Silk Clothing." *Daily Republican*.

Daily Republican, 19 Dec. 1996. Web. 17 Aug. 2007.

Pianka, Eric R. "Desert Ecology." Rev. of Ecology of Desert Organisms by Gideon Louw and

Mary Seely. Science 219.4586 (Feb. 1983): 841-842. *JSTOR*. Web. 17 Aug. 2007.

"The Taklamakan Desert at Sunset, Xinjiang." *Golden Bridge International*. Golden Bridge

International, 19 Oct. 2002. Web. 23 Nov. 2010.

*See back for some very general guidelines for book, databases, and website citations.*

## General Citation Formats

Be warned that there are many variants on these formats: for journals with volumes and page numbers, for instance, or for multiple authors or unusual databases. When in doubt, include all the information you have and do your best to format it in a way that looks right, based on the examples below or at the Purdue Online Writing Lab (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01>), among many other helpful online guides.

A. Generally, a **book entry** reads as follows:

Author's last name, first name. Title of the book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.

Cooper, Sarah. Making History Mine. Portland, Me.: Stenhouse Publishers, 2009.

B. Very generally, a **subscription database entry** reads as follows:

Author's last name, first name [if author is given]. "Headline of Article." Name of Newspaper, Magazine, or Journal date of publication: page number(s). Name of database used. Web. Date of Access in Proper Format.

Rockwell, John. "Bruce Springsteen Evolves Into Figure of Rock Expression."  
New York Times 16 Jul. 1974: 43. ProQuest Historical Newspapers. Web.  
8 Oct. 2008.

C. Generally, a **free Web (non-database) entry** reads as follows:

Author's last name, first name [if author is given]. "Title of web page." *Title of web site*.  
Publisher or sponsor (use N.p. if not available), date of publication (use n.d. if not available). Web. Date of access in proper format.

"War Crimes Trials." *Holocaust Encyclopedia*. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,  
1 Apr. 2010. Web. 23 Nov. 2010.