



Modern Language Association Style Sheet

References

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

Modern Language Association, 8th edition

Chicago Manual of Style, 17th edition

Terms (alphabetical order)

Subcommission on Quaternary Stratigraphy Anthropocene Working Group

earth (lc): the fragmental material composing part of the surface of the globe especially : cultivable soil; Earth (cap): third planet from the sun

Formatting

Quotation marks used to alert readers that a term is used in a nonstandard (or slang), ironic, or other special sense. Such scare quotes imply "This is not my term" or "This is not how the term is usually applied." Like any such device, scare quotes lose their force and irritate readers if overused. See CMS 7.57.

Key terms in a particular context are italicized on their first occurrence. See CMS 7.56.

Foreign terms ital. on first instance, roman thereafter.

When a word or term is not used functionally but is referred to as the word or term itself, it is either italicized or enclosed in quotation marks. Proper nouns used as words, as in the third example, are usually set in roman. See CMS 7.63.

Numbers

Spell out zero to one hundred, and all round numbers thereafter

Inclusive page ranges and numbers are abbreviated according to the principles illustrated in MLA style. For example:

100-01

220-25

301-401

Commas

Terminal/oxford commas in a series. See CMS 6.19.

Commas appear before a suffix in an author name, such as Jr., Sr., etc.

Quotes

To indicate short quotations (four typed lines or fewer of prose or three lines of verse) in your text, enclose the quotation within double quotation marks. Provide the author and specific page citation (in the case of verse, provide line numbers) in the text, and include a complete reference on the Works Cited page. Punctuation marks such as periods, commas, and semicolons should appear after the parenthetical citation. Question marks and exclamation points should appear within the quotation marks if they are a part of the quoted passage but after the parenthetical citation if they are a part of your text.

For quotations that are more than four lines of prose or three lines of verse, place quotations in a free-standing block of text and omit quotation marks.

If you add a word or words in a quotation, you should put brackets around the words to indicate that they are not part of the original text.

If you omit a word or words from a quotation, you should indicate the deleted word or words by using ellipsis marks, which are three periods (. . .) preceded and followed by a space.

If, to align with surrounding text, you are changing the first letter of a quote to capital/lowercase, encase first letter in brackets.

Dates

Dates are always in day/month/year style. For example: 19 April, 2018.

Citations

In-text citations are author-page style with no punctuation separating author and page number. If known author, page number alone is used.

Works cited style is as follows:

Journals (with known DOI): Best, David, and Sharon Marcus. "Surface Reading: An Introduction." *Representations*, vol. 108, no. 1, Fall 2009, pp. 1-21. JSTOR, doi:10.1525/rep.2009.108.1.1.

Books: Wordsworth, William. *Lyrical Ballads*. Oxford UP, 1967.