

# In-text Citation Basics

MLA 9th EDITION VS APA 7TH EDITION

## General Citation Format:

In MLA, it's important to mention the author's surname and, if any, the page number in parenthesis.

(Maud 131)

(Maud 131-132)

and for a quote that spans multiple pages

However, APA uses the author-date citation system. The number of pages is only added for a direct citation, when you repeat the author's words verbatim.

(Maud, 2004)

(Maud, 2004, p.131)

(Maud, 2004, pp. 131-132)

for direct citation

## Multiple Authors:

For MLA, two authors are cited by adding "and" in between their surnames; while in APA the ampersand (&) is used instead.

For MLA: (Rolón and Llenín 102)

For APA: (Rolón & Llenín, 2010)

For citations with three or more authors, in both MLA and APA, only include the first author's name followed by "et al".

For MLA: (Gray et al. 180)

For APA: (Gray et al., 2017)

## Unknown Author:

Identify a citation by the title of the work whenever an author's name is omitted. Remember to italicize self-contained works (i.e a novel or a video) and to use quotation marks for works contained in other works (i.e a poem or an article).

For MLA: (*Beowulf* 35)

For APA: ("What is Bitcoin?", 2021)

## Block Quotations:

Long direct quotations need to be formatted as block quotations. This occurs in MLA when a quotation takes up more than 4 lines of your writing, and in APA when a quotation contains 40 words or more. These should be set apart from the sentence and indented an additional half inch from the left margin. Do not add quotation marks or a period after the closing parenthesis.

While creating a partner for his monster, Frankenstein notices, for the first time, how gruesome his experiment is:

It was, indeed, a filthy process in which I was engaged. During my first experiment, a kind of frenzy had blinded me to the horror of my employment; my mind was intently fixed on the consummation of my labour, and my eyes were shut to the horror of my proceedings. (Shelley 128) MLA  
(Shelley, 2013, 128) APA