

Salisbury Christian School
Accepted Form of Citation for Term Papers and Projects
Electronic Sources

In order to best serve our students, the Library Department and the English Department have adopted MLA (Modern Language Association) as the school-wide standard form of citation. This is the standard taught in the English textbooks that the Upper School currently uses. This standard applies to print and electronic sources. This particular handout is our standard for citing electronic and online sources and has been adopted as the accepted form when grading term papers and projects.

The MLA guidelines on documenting online sources are explained in detail in the fifth edition of the **MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers** (1999). The Upper School Library houses our copy of the MLA Handbook, in the Reference section. What follows is a summary of the guidelines that cover the World Wide Web. For the complete MLA recommendation on Web resources, please see the **MLA Handbook**.

Below is the pertinent information from the MLA site itself.

Sources on the World Wide Web that students and scholars use in their research include scholarly projects, reference databases, the texts of books, articles in periodicals, and professional and personal sites. Entries in a works-cited list for such sources contain as many items from the list below as are relevant and available. Following this list are sample entries for some common kinds of Web sources.

1. **Name of the author**, editor, compiler, or translator of the source (if available and relevant), reversed for alphabetizing and followed by an abbreviation, such as *ed.*, if appropriate
2. **Title** of a poem, short story, article, or similar short work within a scholarly project, database, or periodical (in quotation marks); or title of a posting to a discussion list or forum (taken from the subject line and put in quotation marks), followed by the description *Online posting*
3. **Title of a book** (underlined)
4. **Name of the editor, compiler, or translator of the text** (if relevant and if not cited earlier), preceded by the appropriate abbreviation, such as *Ed.*
5. **Publication information for any print version of the source**
6. **Title** of the scholarly project, database, periodical, or professional or personal site (underlined); or, for a professional or personal site with no title, a **description** such as *Home page*
7. Name of the **editor** of the scholarly project or database (if available)
8. **Version number** of the source (if not part of the title) or, for a journal, the volume number, issue number, or other identifying number

9. Date of electronic publication, of the latest update, or of posting

10. For a work from a **subscription service**, the **name** of the service and--if a library is the subscriber-- the name and city (and state abbreviation, if necessary) of the library

11. For a posting to a discussion list or forum, the **name of the list or forum**

12. The number range or total **number of pages**, paragraphs, or other sections, **if they are numbered**

13. Name of any institution or **organization sponsoring** or associated with the Web site

14. Date when the researcher accessed the source

15. **Electronic address, or URL**, of the source (in angle brackets); or, for a subscription service, the URL of the service's main page (if known) or the keyword assigned by the service

Scholarly Project:

Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. Perry Willett. Apr. 1997. Indiana U. 26 Apr. 1997

<<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/>>.

Professional Site:

Portuguese Language Page. U of Chicago. 1 May 1997 <<http://humanities.uchicago.edu/romance/port/>>.

>.

Personal Site:

Lancashire, Ian. Home page. 1 May 1997 <<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca:8080/~ian/index.html>>.

>.

Book

Nesbit, E[dith]. Ballads and Lyrics of Socialism. London, 1908. Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. Perry Willett. Apr. 1997. Indiana U. 26 Apr. 1997 <<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/nesbit/ballsoc.html>>.

Poem

Nesbit, E[dith]. "Marching Song." Ballads and Lyrics of Socialism. London, 1908. Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. Perry Willett. Apr. 1997. Indiana U. 26 Apr. 1997 <<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp/nesbit/ballsoc.html#p9>>.

Article in a Reference Database

"Fresco." Britannica Online. Vers. 97.1.1. Mar. 1997. Encyclopaedia Britannica. 29 Mar. 1997 <<http://www.eb.com:180>>.

Article in a Journal

Flannagan, Roy. "Reflections on Milton and Ariosto." Early Modern Literary Studies 2.3 (1996): 16 pars. 22 Feb. 1997 <<http://unixg.ubc.ca:7001/O/e-sources/emls/02-3/flanmilt.html>>.

Article in a Magazine

Landsburg, Steven E. "Who Shall Inherit the Earth?" Slate 1 May 1997. 2 May 1997 <<http://www.slate.com/Economics/97-05-01/Economics.asp>>.

Work from a Subscription Service

Koretz, Gene. "Economic Trends: Uh-Oh, Warm Water." Business Week 21 July 1997: 22.

Electric Lib. Sam Barlow High School Lib., Gresham, OR. 17 Oct. 1997 <[http://](http://www.elibrary.com/)

www.elibrary.com/>.

"Table Tennis." Compton's Encyclopedia Online. Vers. 2.0. 1997. America Online. 4 July

1998. Keyword: Compton's.

Posting to a Discussion List

Merrian, Joanne. "Spinoff: Monsterpiece Theatre." Online posting. 30 Apr. 1994.

Shaksper: The Global Electronic Shakespeare Conf. 27 Aug. 1997 <[http://www.arts.ubc.ca/](http://www.arts.ubc.ca/english/iemls/shak/MONSTERP_SPINOFF.txt)

[english/iemls/shak/MONSTERP_SPINOFF.txt](http://www.arts.ubc.ca/english/iemls/shak/MONSTERP_SPINOFF.txt)>.

In **parenthetical references in the text**, works on the World Wide Web are cited just like printed works. For any type of source, you must include information in your text that directs readers to the correct entry in the works-cited list (see the *MLA Handbook*, sec. 5.2). Web documents generally do not have fixed page numbers or any kind of section numbering. If your source lacks numbering, you have to omit numbers from your parenthetical references.

If your source includes fixed page numbers or section numbering (such as numbering of paragraphs), cite the relevant numbers. Give the appropriate abbreviation before the numbers: "(Moulthrop, pars. 19-20)." (*Pars.* is the abbreviation for *paragraphs*. Common abbreviations are listed in the *MLA Handbook*, sec. 6.4.) For a document on the Web, the page numbers of a printout should normally not be cited, because the pagination may vary in different printouts.

NOTE:

Some word processing programs automatically take away the symbols which MLA asks to bracket web addresses (the < and >). This can be changed within the word processing program, usually in an options submenu within the Format Menus. Teachers may decide to accept it either way. It is possible that MLA will discard the < > in the future, as the web addresses are distinguished "visually" by the word processing program.

Also, when web addresses are long, the word processor often keeps the address together and 'forces' the web address onto the next line.