MLA 9th Ed. In-Text Citations

Notes on MLA 9ᵗʰ edition parenthetical citations:

- Match each citation to the corresponding entries in your list of works cited.
- Put the last name of the author (or the work's title) followed by a space, then the page number(s) of the text cited in parentheses (except for special instances).
- Place citations where a pause would naturally occur (preferably at the end of a sentence), as near as possible to the material documented.
- Omit any citation information that you include in the sentence from the citation itself. In other words, if you include the author's name in the sentence, it is not necessary in the parenthetical citation. This principle is detailed in the "In-Text" section below.
- Put a parenthetical citation following a quotation after the closing quotation mark and before any following comma or end-punctuation [ex: In the late Renaissance, Machiavelli contended that human beings were by nature "ungrateful" and "mutable" (1240), and Montaigne thought them "miserable and puny" (1343).].

For more information about MLA in-text citations, you can follow this link: https://style.mla.org/in-text-citations-overview

Works Cited	
Situation	**Example**
Basic Format: List the last name of the author and the relevant page number if available.	(Brown 10) (Smith)
Authors with the same last name: Add first initial. If the initial is the same, use the full first name.	(W. Wordsworth 23); (D. Wordsworth 224) (John Smith 1); (Jane Smith 2)
Two authors begin works cited entry: Give the last name of each person listed.	(White and Black 80)
Three or more authors begin works cited entry: Give the first author's name followed by "et al."	(Allen et al. 101)
Work is listed by title: Use the title, shortened or in full.	("Creating Writing Center Handouts" 6)

Two + anonymous works with the same title: Add a publication fact, such as a date, that distinguishes the works.	("Snowy Owl," *Arctic*); ("Snowy Owl," *Hinderland*) ("Cats," 1984); ("Cats," 2000)
Two or more works by the same author: Add the cited title, shortened or in full, after the author's last name.	(Frye, *Anatomy* 237); (Frye, *The Double Vision* 100).

In-Text

Situation	Example
Author's name in text:	Tannen has argued this point (178-85).
Author's name in citation:	This point has already been argued (Tannen 178-85).
Authors' names in text:	Others, like Jakobson and Waugh (210-15), hold the opposite view.
Authors' names in citation: If the work has three or more authors, give the first author's last name followed by "et al."	One popular survey of American literature breaks the contents into sixteen thematic groupings (Anderson et al. A19-24). (Lauter et al. 2425-33).

Source-Related

Situation	Example
Citing indirect source: Put in "qtd. in" (quoted in) before the indirect source you cite.	Samuel Johnson admitted that Edmund Burke was an "extraordinary man" (qtd. in Weinberg 1:405, 616-17).
Literary works: When referencing a classic prose work (novel, play, etc.) that is available in many editions, provide more than the page number; use a chapter number, section number, etc. Follow the author and page number by a semi-colon, then add the information.	In *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Mary Wollstonecraft recollects many "women who, not led by degrees to proper studies, and not permitted to choose for themselves, have indeed been overgrown with children" (185; ch. 13, sec. 2).
Plays, Classic verse: Omit page numbers and cite by division (act, scene, canto, book, part) and line, with periods separating various numbers.	Book 9, line 19, of Homer's *Iliad*: (*Iliad* 9.19) Act 4, Scene 1 in *King Lear*: (*King Lear* 4.1) is preferred, or (*King Lear* IV.i)

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Poems, Classic verse: Give line numbers instead of page numbers.	In "Marching Song," Nesbit declares, "Our arms and hearts are strong for all who suffer wrong…" (line 11).

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