

Name: _____
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How to Cite Using Parenthetical Citations

1. Within the parentheses, there will be an author's last name and a page number or just a page number. If the author's last name has just been mentioned and readers already know who is being cited, do not repeat it. You must use only the page number in this case.
2. If there is no author given, use the title of the article in quotation marks. You do not have to copy the entire title, just enough so the reader can identify which source you used from the Works Cited page.
3. There is never a comma or a "p" between the author's name and the page number, just a single blank space.
4. When citing a direct quotation, the parenthetical citation always comes **after** the end quotation mark. The ending parenthesis is not included within the quotation marks.
5. At the end of a sentence, the period always comes **after** the ending parenthesis. Don't put a period and then add the parenthetical citation. Don't use two periods either, only the one after the parenthetical citation.

Two other important points:

1. Don't assume that a parenthetical citation is needed only for direct (word-for-word) quotations. You must also include a citation when you are paraphrasing (i.e. rephrasing in your own words) or summarizing a specific idea from an author.
2. The only time there will be no page number is if you are citing a Web document that has no fixed page numbers. As explained on the [MLA website](#), "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." Readers should still be able to find the exact words you're citing by calling up the webpage you've given them and using the "Find in Page" feature of their web browser.