

# HOW-TO

## Credit Your Research Sources: IN-TEXT CITATION

There are two types of in-text citation required in your written essay.

1. **formal MLA in-text parenthetical citations** – We call these traditional in-text citations “*silent*” or “*whisper*” citations because they are not read out loud.
2. **“out loud” attributions** – You can also give credit to your sources “*out loud*” by writing a direct reference into the text of your essay, saying, for example, “*According to...*” or “*The author explains...*”
  - **NOTE: Every in-text citation refers to a source in your Works Cited bibliography.**

# 1. For MLA parenthetical in-text citations:

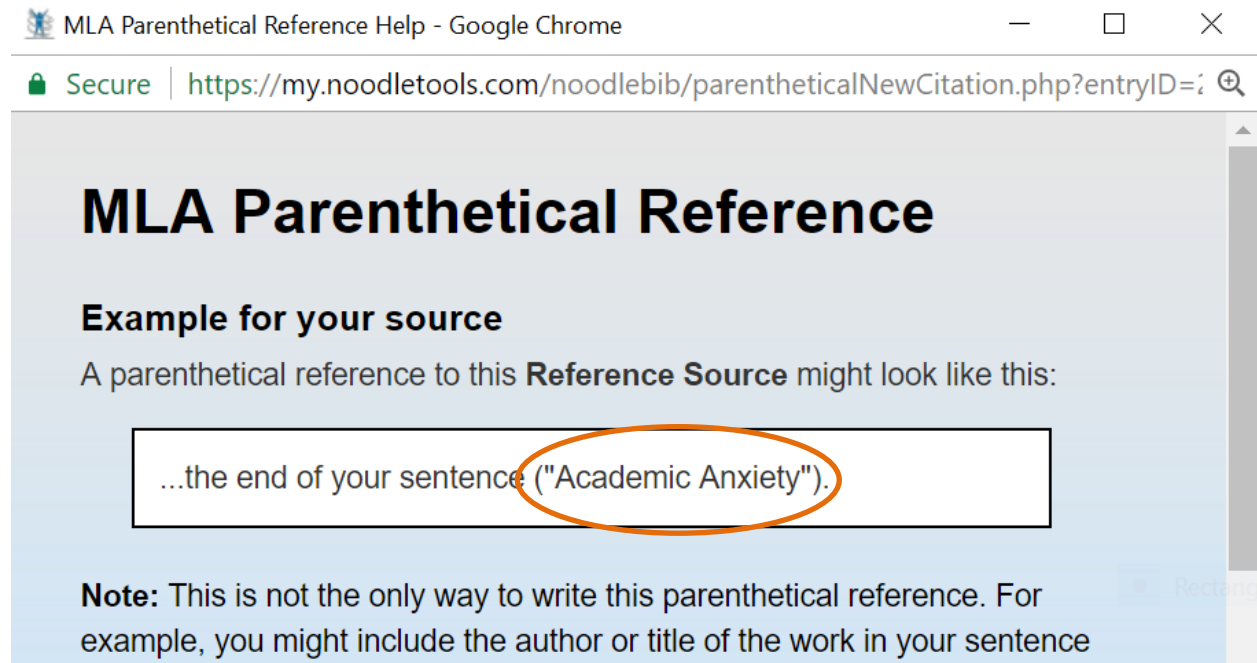
Go to the 'Sources' page in your NoodleTools project and click the 'Options' to the right of your citation on your 'Sources' page and select 'In-text reference'

The screenshot shows the NoodleTools interface for a project titled "Plate Tectonic Theory & Mountains". The "Sources" tab is active, displaying a list of citations under the heading "MLA Works Cited". The interface includes a navigation bar with "Projects", "Dashboard", "Sources", "Notecards", and "Paper". Below the heading, there is a "+ Create new citation" button and a toolbar with "Print/Export", "Email", "Analysis", and "Undelete" options. A "Sort: Alphabetic" dropdown is also present. The main content area is a table with columns for "Media Type", "Citation", "Description", and "Notecards". Four citations are listed, each with an "Options" button to its right. An orange arrow points from the text above to the "Options" button of the first citation. A dropdown menu is open for this button, showing options: "Edit", "Copy", "Delete", "In-text reference", and "Have a question?".

Media Type	Citation	Description	Notecards
Reference Source Article/Entry	"Academic Anxiety." <i>Teen Health &amp; Wellness</i> , Rosen Publishing, Nov. 2015, www.teenhealthandwellness.com/article/28/academic-anxiety. Accessed 28 Nov. 2016.	0 New	Options
Reference Source	"Autism." <i>Teen Health and Wellness</i> , Rosen Publishing, March 2016, www.teenhealthandwellness.com/article/57/autism. Accessed 7 Dec. 2016.	0 New	Options
Reference Source	"Earthquake." <i>UXL Encyclopedia of Weather and Natural Disasters</i> , vol. 2: Avalanche to El Nino, UXL, 2008, pp. 251-282. <i>Gale Virtual Reference Library</i> . Accessed 9 Jan. 2017.	0 New	Options
Reference Source Article/Entry	"Greek Mythology." <i>UXL Encyclopedia of World Mythology</i> , vol. 3, Detroit, UXL, 2009, pp. 454-64. <i>Gale Virtual Reference Library</i> , go.galegroup.com/ps/...	0 New	Options

## 2. Copy & Paste the MLA in-text citation at the end of the sentence.

A box will pop up with the correct in-text citation format – in this example, MLA format calls for the article title in quotation marks. The full in-text citation goes inside the sentence before the period.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "MLA Parenthetical Reference Help - Google Chrome". The address bar shows the URL "https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/parentheticalNewCitation.php?entryID=:". The main content area has a heading "MLA Parenthetical Reference" and a sub-heading "Example for your source". Below this, it says "A parenthetical reference to this Reference Source might look like this:" followed by a text box containing "...the end of your sentence ("Academic Anxiety").". The citation "Academic Anxiety" is circled in orange. A "Note" below states: "This is not the only way to write this parenthetical reference. For example, you might include the author or title of the work in your sentence".

You can see in the example below that you may combine traditional in-text citations with “out loud” source credits, and even direct quotation from the source.

Experiencing occasional stress over school work is normal and may help students perform well on tests and assignments. But too much worry can be unhealthy, **according to *Teen Health & Wellness***: “In a disorder, the emotional and physical anxious feeling stays with someone even though the stressful situation is no longer taking place” (“**Academic Anxiety**”).

- *In this example, note that MLA format requires article or webpage titles to be in quotation marks, while the names of larger works such as research databases, encyclopedias, and websites are italicized.*

### 3. Add a page number if your source is paginated (meaning it has page numbers).

Type the page number or numbers into the box and NoodleTools will automatically fill it in:

The screenshot shows the NoodleTools interface. On the left, the 'MLA Works Cited' section lists three items: a Reference Source (Earthquake), a Book (Patent), and a Web Site (Understanding Plate Motions). The first item is selected, and its citation text is highlighted. On the right, the 'MLA Parenthetical Reference' guide provides an example: '...the end of your sentence ("Earthquake" 273)'. Below the example, there is a 'Customize the example:' section with a text box containing '273'. A note explains that if the database does not provide page numbers, they should be omitted. Another note states that this is not the only way to write a parenthetical reference. A third section asks 'What is a parenthetical reference?' and explains that it is a reference within the body of a paper. A fourth section asks 'What typically goes in an MLA-style parenthetical'.

You may credit your source by copying the MLA in-text citation from NoodleTools and pasting it at the end of your paraphrase, before the period, like this:

The release of pressure at plate margins caused by the movement of tectonic plates triggers more than a million earthquakes every year, although most go unnoticed because the ground vibrations are not strong enough to be felt (**"Earthquake" 273**).

Here is the same information using an **"out loud"** in-text citation – you may not need a parenthesis at the end of the sentence if your source does not have page numbers.

In the **GVRL** article **"Earthquake,"** the author explains that most of the one million earthquakes that occur each year are not even felt because the ground vibrations produced by plate movement are not strong enough (**273**).

#### 4. For a source without page numbers:

Either refer “*out loud*” to the source in the text or provide a formal MLA in-text parenthetical citation at the end of the sentence.

Here are two examples of the same material:

The screenshot shows a library database interface with a table of search results. The table has columns for 'Media Type' and 'Citation'. Three entries are visible: a Reference Source, a Book, and a Web Site. The 'Web Site' entry is circled in orange. An orange arrow points from the circled citation to a help window titled 'MLA Parenthetical Reference'. The help window shows an example: 'the end of your sentence ("Understanding Plate").' and a note explaining that this is not the only way to write the reference.

Media Type	Citation
Reference Source Article/Entry <a href="#">View live web page</a> <a href="#">Archive &amp; annotate</a>	"Earthquake." <i>UXL Encyclopedia of Weather and Natural Disasters</i> . Detroit, UXL, 2008, pp. 251-82. <i>Gale Virtual Reference Library</i> . <a href="https://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=GVRL&amp;sw=w&amp;u=riverdrhs_ca&amp;v=2.1&amp;it=r&amp;id=GALE%7e228e74dca6c2e4dcedf4">go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=GVRL&amp;sw=w&amp;u=riverdrhs_ca&amp;v=2.1&amp;it=r&amp;id=GALE%7e228e74dca6c2e4dcedf4</a> . Accessed 10 Jan. 2017. Created by: Ms. Risi (Ms. Risi) on 01/10/17 09:40 AM
Book	Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. <i>Shaping the Earth</i> . Detroit, Clarion, 2000. Created by: Ms. Risi (Ms. Risi) on 01/10/17 09:21 AM
Web Site Web Page <a href="#">View live web page</a> <a href="#">Archive &amp; annotate</a>	"Understanding Plate Motions." <i>This Dynamic Earth: The Story of U.S. Geological Survey</i> . <a href="https://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/dynamic/understanding-plate-motions/">pubs.usgs.gov/gip/dynamic/understanding-plate-motions/</a> . Accessed 10 Jan. 2017. Created by: Ms. Risi (Ms. Risi) on 01/10/17 09:38 AM   Updated:

The website *This Dynamic Earth* notes that subducting plates in the ocean may trigger both earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

or

Subducting plates in the ocean may trigger both earthquakes and volcanic eruptions (“Understanding Plate”).