

IN-TEXT CITATION – MLA STYLE

In-text citations (also called in-text references) are used in the body of your paper to give credit to the ideas you learned in your research. Use an in-text citation each time you draw an idea from one of your research sources. All in-text citations refer to works cited in the **Works Cited** list.

NoodleTools shows you how: click on the link '*In-text reference*' to the right of your citation; copy and paste the in-text citation directly into your paper where you refer to the source. For a book, you will need to type in the page number or numbers before you copy and paste.

Here are some examples:

TO CITE PRINT SOURCES

1. To document your sources, cite the **author's name and the page number** of the source in parentheses at the end of the sentence, before the final period:

Avoiding plagiarism in school research requires that you learn why and how to cite your sources (Risi 35).

2. **If the author's name is used in your sentence you may just refer to page numbers** – this also shows that when referring to quoted material the parenthetical citation goes right after the quotation marks before the period.:

Risi argues that "research skills must be taught in every class" (45).

3. If you are referring to the **whole work** rather than a specific section, you may just mention the author's name in your text and omit any reference in parentheses:

Risi's main thesis is that information literacy skills are important for a student's academic achievement.

TO CITE ONLINE SOURCES

1. For a **DATABASE ARTICLE**, use the name of the article. In the following example, the article comes from an online encyclopedia that is cited in the Works Cited list:

In fresco painting, "the pigments are completely fused with a damp plaster ground to become an integral part of the wall surface" ("Fresco Painting").

2. For a **WEB SITE**, name the article and one word from the Web site title. In the following example, the information comes from a page on the Snowy Owl contained in Arctic Studies Center section of the Web site of the Museum of Natural History.

In winter the snowy owl feeds mostly on small rodents ("Snowy Owl," Arctic).