

## MLA In-Text Citation Examples

### **Exercise instructions (MLA)**

For each question:

1. Read the source description.
2. Write each prompt in both MLA parenthetical and MLA narrative (citation in prose) form.
3. Use your MLA citation guide to check that your style is correct.

Key MLA reminders:

- MLA in-text citations normally use author's last name and page number, with no comma between them.
- If there is no page number (e.g., many websites), include only what you have (usually the author's last name or a shortened title).
- For three or more authors, list the first author's last name followed by "et al."

### **Item 1 – One author, parenthetical and narrative**

Source:

- Author: Jordan Lee
- Year: 2022 (not included in MLA in-text)
- Idea: "Regular sleep improves academic performance in high school students."

Write:

- MLA parenthetical citation example (author and page, if page exists).
- MLA narrative citation example using Lee in the sentence and page at the end.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Item 2 – Two authors, parenthetical and narrative**

Source:

- Authors: Morgan Smith and Priya Patel
- Year: 2020 (not included in MLA in-text)
- Idea: "Daily reading increases vocabulary growth in middle school students."

Write:

- MLA narrative citation example, naming both Smith and Patel in your sentence and adding the page number in parentheses.
- MLA parenthetical citation example with both last names joined by “and” plus the page number.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Item 3 – Three or more authors, parenthetical and narrative**

Source:

- Authors: Taylor Green, Alex Chen, and Samira Lopez
- Year: 2019 (not included in MLA in-text)
- Idea: “Participating in group projects can improve collaboration skills.”

Write:

- MLA parenthetical citation example using the first author’s last name followed by “et al.” and the page number.
- MLA narrative citation example using Green et al. in the sentence, with the page number in parentheses.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_