# MLA In-Text Citations (8th Ed.)

MLA style requires the use of in-text (also called parenthetical) citations. They are built from the first word(s) of the full citations followed by the location, and they are enclosed in parenthesis. In-text citations go at the end of the sentence with the punctuation placed after the citation. Create full citations before writing in-text citations. Here are the most common ways to cite sources within an essay. Note: These examples of in-text citations are based off the works cited list below.

An in-text citation for printed sources usually includes the author’s last name and page number(s).

As had been the case with Dada nearly sixty years earlier, “the instigators of the revolutionary avant-garde in music comprised a tiny number of people” (Bracewell 242).

If the sentence leading into the quote from a printed source states the author’s name, only cite the page number(s).

To cite a source with no author, include the first word(s) of the title as it shows on the full citation along with the page number. If it is an online source, no page numbers are necessary.

According to Bracewell, “the instigators of the revolutionary avant-garde in music comprised a tiny number of people” (242).

Roxy Music’s style has been described as artistic rock that combined “wistful romantic irony with initially archaic and later subdued, lush rock” (“Roxy” 855).

To cite a source that does not have a page number, i.e. websites or online journals, include the author’s name in the sentence leading into the quote or at the end of the sentence in parenthesis.

Still, the critiques of the time argued that “Many of the best from the new crop of arty pop bands from that era owed a lot to Roxy’s earlier incarnations, from the playfully quirky theatrical apparel to the emotionally detached, affected cool of some of their best music”

Works Cited

Bracewell, Michel. *Re-make, Remodel: Becoming Roxy Music*. DeCapo, 2008, pp. 242.

Clark, Rick. “Roxy Music’s Avalon.” *Mix*. Penton Media, 6 Jan. 2004. [Url optional. Ask instructor]. Accessed 8 Aug. 2009.

“Roxy Music.” Edited by Patricia Romanowski and Holly George-Warren. *New Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll.* Fireside, 1995, pp. 855-856.

# Exercise **[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Review these sample quotes and the sample works cited page. Write the in-text citation in MLA format.**

**Sample:** According to a CNN article published in 2000, the United States manufactures more than 1.5 billion pounds of chemical pesticides a year that can pollute our water, soil, and air (Baum).

1. Skeptics of buying local at the *Christian Science Monitor* also say that focusing food cultivation in the United States will be worse for the environment because “Farmers here use more industrial equipment than farmers in the third world”\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. According to the *Progressive Policy Institute*, however, “only 13 percent of American diet is imported”\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Baum argues that “while the market for organic goods is growing, it is still a small portion of total U.S. food production”\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. McDonald quotes Alex Avery, the director of research and education at the Center for Global Food Issues, saying that we should “buy food from the world region where it grows best” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Works Cited

Baum, Michele Dula. “U.S. Government Issues Standards on Organic Food.” *CNN.com*. Turner Broadcasting System, 20 Dec. 2000. www.cnn.com/FOOD/specials/2000/organic.main/story.html.

MacDonald, G. Jeffrey. “Is Buying Local Always Best?” *Christian Science Monitor*. 24 July 2006, pp. 13.

“98.7 Percent of Imported Food Never Inspected.” *Progressive Policy Institute*. Progressive Policy Institute, 7 Sept. 2007.

1. Spriggs, Katherine. “On Buying Local.” *Everyone’s An Author*. Edited by Andrea Lunsford, et al., Norton and Company, 2012, pp. 32-40. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)