

MLA 7th edition – Notable changes from the 6th edition

The Modern Language Association published the 7th edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* in March 2009. The following is a brief summary of some important differences between the 6th and 7th editions. Students are encouraged to refer to the *MLA Handbook* to become familiar with all changes, and to follow the guidelines given by their instructors.

Italics

Titles of works are now italicized, not underlined, in the text and in the works cited list.

Medium of Publication

Each entry in the works cited list must specify the medium of publication, such as “Print,” “Web,” or “DVD.”

Citing Web Publications - URLs

MLA format no longer requires URLs in the works cited list. Readers are now more likely to find web resources by searching for titles and authors' names than by typing URLs. Therefore, MLA style now indicates that writers should include a URL as supplementary information only when the reader probably cannot locate the source without it, *or when an instructor requires it*.

If including a URL, enclose it in angle brackets and place it after the date of access. See examples below.

Selected Examples

For source types not covered here, consult the *MLA Handbook*.

Book:

Takahashi, Shin. *The Manga Guide to Statistics*. San Francisco: No Starch Press, 2009. Print.

Book chapter in an anthology:

Vessey, David. “Hey-diddley-ho, Neighboreenos: Ned Flanders and Neighborly Love.” *The Simpsons and Philosophy*. Ed. William Irwin, Mark T. Conrad, and Aeon J. Skoble. Chicago: Open Court, 2001. 202-214. Print.

Article in a reference book:

Chapman, Roger. “GI Joe.” *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*. Ed. Tom Pendergast and Sara Pendergast. Vol. 2. Detroit: St. James Press, 2000. Print.

Journal article (from print journal):

Mabry, Rick, and Paul Deiermann. "Of Cheese and Crust: A Proof of the Pizza Conjecture and Other Tasty Results." *American Mathematical Monthly* 116.5 (2009): 423-438. Print.

Article (from online database):

Shepherd, Laura, and Adam Kuczynski. "The Use of Emotive Imagery and Behavioral Techniques for a 10-Year-Old Boy's Nocturnal Fear of Ghosts and Zombies." *Clinical Case Studies* 8.2 (2009): 99-112. *Sage Journals Online*. Web. 6 Jan. 2010.

Article (from online periodical):

Kushner, David. "Tricked-Out Golf Carts Swarm Florida Communities." *Wired* 17.10 (2009) n. pag. Web. 6 Jan. 2010.

If including the URL:

Kushner, David. "Tricked-Out Golf Carts Swarm Florida Communities." *Wired* 17.10 (2009) n. pag. Web. 6 Jan. 2010. <http://www.wired.com/cars/coolwheels/magazine/17-10/ff_ecars>.

Newspaper article (from a web site):

Kepner, Tyler. "Back From Dead, Red Sox Bury Yanks and Go to Series." *NYTimes.com*. New York Times, 21 Oct. 2004. Web. 6 January 2010.

If including the URL:

Kepner, Tyler. "Back From Dead, Red Sox Bury Yanks and Go to Series." *NYTimes.com*. New York Times, 21 Oct. 2004. Web. 6 January 2010. <<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9E02E6DB113AF932A15753C1A9629C8B63>>.

Newspaper article (from online database):

Kepner, Tyler. "Boston Sweeps World Series Again Before Dust Settles on 2004 Crown." *New York Times*, 29 Oct. 2007, late ed., D1. *LexisNexis*. Web. 6 January 2010.

Document from a website:

Welch, Chris. "Web Goes Nuts for 'Crasher Squirrel'." *CNN.com*. Cable News Network, 9 Sept. 2009.

Web. 6 Jan. 2010.

If including the URL:

Welch, Chris. "Web Goes Nuts for 'Crasher Squirrel'." *CNN.com*. Cable News Network, 9 Sept. 2009.

Web. 6 Jan. 2010. <<http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/09/09/minnesota.crasher.squirrel/>>.

Example bibliography in MLA 7th edition format

Works Cited

Bryfonski, Dedria, ed. *Political Issues in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter Series*. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2009.

Print.

Chapman, Roger. "GI Joe." *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*. Ed. Tom Pendergast and Sara Pendergast.

Vol. 2. Detroit: St. James Press, 2000. Print.

Jones, Joey. Personal interview. 13 Nov. 2009.

Kepner, Tyler. "Back From Dead, Red Sox Bury Yanks and Go to Series." *NYTimes.com*. New York Times, 21 Oct.

2004. Web. 6 January 2010.

---. "Boston Sweeps World Series Again Before Dust Settles on 2004 Crown." *New York Times*, 29 Oct. 2007, late

ed., D1. *LexisNexis*. Web. 6 January 2010.

Kushner, David. "Tricked-Out Golf Carts Swarm Florida Communities." *Wired* 17.10 (2009) n. pag. Web. 6 Jan.

2010.

Mabry, Rick, and Paul Deiermann. "Of Cheese and Crust: A Proof of the Pizza Conjecture and Other Tasty

Results." *American Mathematical Monthly* 116.5 (2009): 423-438. Print.

Shepherd, Laura, and Adam Kuczynski. "The Use of Emotive Imagery and Behavioral Techniques for a 10-Year-

Old Boy's Nocturnal Fear of Ghosts and Zombies." *Clinical Case Studies* 8.2 (2009): 99-112. *Sage*

Journals Online. Web. 6 Jan. 2010.

Takahashi, Shin. *The Manga Guide to Statistics*. San Francisco: No Starch Press, 2009. Print.

Vessey, David. "Hey-diddley-ho, Neighboreenos: Ned Flanders and Neighborly Love." *The Simpsons and*

Philosophy. Ed. William Irwin, Mark T. Conrad, and Aeon J. Skoble. Chicago: Open Court, 2001. 202-214.

Print.

Welch, Chris. "Web Goes Nuts for 'Crasher Squirrel'." *CNN.com*. Cable News Network, 9 Sept. 2009. Web. 6 Jan.

2010.