

In-Text Parenthetical Citation (for MLA documentation of print or PDF sources)

When including sources in your writing, in either a paraphrase or a quotation, at least two pieces of information must be cited within the text:

1. The last name (s) of the author(s);
2. The number(s) of the page(s) used.

If the author's last name has already been mentioned in the signal phrase, the page number can stand alone within the parentheses.

Ex.: In the introduction of his article "The Science of Chocolate," Frank Phillips claims, "Cocoa powder makes better chocolate milk than chocolate syrup" (11).

If the author's name has not been mentioned, it must accompany the page number. Do not separate them with a comma.

Ex.: In the opinion of a chocolate connoisseur, chocolate milk without high fructose syrup tastes better (Phillips 215).

For texts with two or three authors, include the last name of each author.

Ex.: Scientists, however, maintain that "different chocolate milks made with powder and syrup have no flavor differences" (Wilson, Michaels, and Priest 72).

For texts with four or more authors, list the first author's name followed by "et al."

Ex.: Other connoisseurs disagree with Phillips' claim, saying, "Chocolate milk is chocolate milk" (Mayer et al. 513).

When citing a quotation within a cited text (an "indirect source"), use the abbreviation "qtd. in" inside the parentheses, followed by the last name of the main text's author and the page number.

Ex.: Phillips' response to the criticism, as printed in *Time Magazine*, was "They clearly have no taste buds" (qtd. in Clark 13).

When referring to a general idea, an entire text, or a text with only one page, no page number is needed.

Ex.: Overall, the debate about chocolate milk has become quite heated (Anderson).

If a source has no author given, use the title in the parentheses instead; if the title is especially long, use an abbreviated version.

Ex.: One anonymous pamphlet rationalizes, "I don't care what my kids drink, as long as they get their calcium" (*Stop the Chocolate Milk Wars* 22).

When citing more than one source for one idea, each source should be properly cited, separated by a semicolon.

Ex.: Various opinions on chocolate milk should all be respected (Zimmerman 15; Thomas 768).