**Quick MLA Tips for Paper #1**

First, review the “OVERVIEW: Updates from the MLA Handbook 8th edition” handout, which has a guide for setting up and formatting a Works Cited page and examples of how to cite different kinds of sources both on a Works Cited page and in the text of your essay. See also the brief handout on MLA citation and “Avoiding Plagiarism: Knowing When and How to Quote, Paraphrase, or Summarize.”

Second, find the examples in the handout for how to cite a “Magazine or newspaper article” specifically “ONLINE” (so that you can cite the John article and your international news-site source) and how to cite an article from an “ONLINE DATABASE” (for a newspaper or magazine article found using a Truman online library database).

Third, whenever you use specific data, statistics, or a quote from a piece of reading or research, you must provide a page number for that info as part of a parenthetical in-text citation. EXCEPTIONS: (1) The international news sites (like most web sites) generally do not have page numbers, and so you have no in-text page cites; also, do not cite page numbers that your printer assigned to a print-out of the article. (2) When you find a database article in “HTML simple text” mode, you will not know how the article is paginated and so you have no in-text page cites unless the article was all originally published on one page; database articles in PDF mode will provide pagination, and so then you are required to provide in-text page cites.

Fourth, see all of the MLA Works Cited page and in-text cite examples in the student sample papers. You’ll note important details; for example, the parenthetical cite does not have extra punctuation thrown in and never uses the word “page” or any abbreviation for it. Also, parenthetical cites should always go at the end of the sentence, with the sentence-ending period coming after the parentheses.

Last, proofread carefully for correct MLA documentation.

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