The ‘Works Cited’ page – Formatting Works from Making Literature Matter in MLA format

All primary sources must have accurate and specific parenthetical documentation throughout your paper, including the last name(s) of authors and page number (if prose) – exp: (Marshall 241), line number(s) if poetry – exp: (Szymborska, line 15), or act, scene, and line numbers (if available) if a drama – exp: (Oth. 3.3.105-7)

With reference to the “Works Cited” page at the end of the research paper, the MLA guidelines for formatting a specific work (as a primary source) and multiple works (as multiple primary and/or secondary sources) from your textbook appear in the MLA Handbook (157-8, 5.5.6., “A Work in an Anthology”). Please note the following two research scenarios and relevant MLA documentation for your textbook sources:

Research Scenario 1: only one primary anthology / textbook source

MLA 5.5.6: A Work in an Anthology

The documentation below appears in the Works Cited page if the research paper has only one primary source from the textbook. Other books, articles, interviews, Web-based materials, and other print and non-print media about the author or thesis subject of your paper, that is, secondary sources, are from outside the textbook and do not appear as critical readings following the work under the heading of either the Critical Commentaries or Cultural Contexts.

Please follow this order (3 consecutive sets of information):

1. Author (Last name, first name), title (in quotation marks - period precedes end quotation mark), and (if relevant) translator(s) (preceded by the abbreviation 'Trans.', capital 'T') of the part of the anthology citation.

Example:

2. Name of the anthology, editor(s) (preceded by the abbreviation 'Ed.', capital 'E) or compiler(s) (Comp.) of the book being cited and edition (abbreviation 'ed.', lower-case 'e,' follows number).

Note: capital and lower-case as well as placement before or after the name and number respectively differentiate editor (Ed.) from edition (ed.).

Example:

3. Publication information:
Place of publication (followed by a colon), Publisher (followed by a comma), Date of publication (followed by a period), Page number(s) (without 'p.' or 'pp.', followed by a period). indicate ‘Print.’

Example:

Example Works Cited citation in full for a single primary source:


(over)
Research Scenario 2: one primary source + additional secondary sources from the anthology / textbook

The documentation below appears in the Works Cited page (alphabetized) if the research paper has a single primary source plus references and parenthetical citations to one or more secondary works or excerpts in the Critical Commentaries or Cultural Contexts sections that follow selected primary works in the textbook.

Works Cited entry 1 (primary source):

Author (Last name, first name), “Title.” (in quotation marks - period precedes end quotation mark); capitalized last name(s) of the editor(s) for additional Works Cited entry and cross-reference (followed by a period), and page number(s) of the work (followed by a period).

Example:

Works Cited entry 2 (secondary source):

If the secondary sources in the Critical Commentaries or Cultural Contexts sections are complete works, they may also appear as a cross-reference in the Works Cited.

Example (in Works Cited):

Works Cited entry 3 (cross reference to the anthology / textbook [5.5.3.]):

Editor(s) last name(s), followed by 'ed.' or 'eds.', title of the anthology or textbook, edition, and publication information (see description in Research Scenario 1 for order and punctuation).

Example: