

Parenthetical Citations

While conducting research at RHS and in your future college classes, it is important to keep track of information location. You must credit your sources when you use **not only exact words but also facts, opinions, and statistics--even** if you paraphrase. Anything that you didn't know before finding it in your source needs to be documented. Your teachers expect to see many **citations** to help support the opinions that you are forming. If in doubt, **cite it to avoid plagiarism.**

The following style sample is based on MLA standards (Modern Language Association). Next to each is the proper citation that you would use in the text of your paper. Hypothetical examples follow:

"Thomas Edison made more contributions to society than any other American inventor" (Burns 159). Some people do not know that Edison was instrumental in automobile advancements ("Edison's") and never received the credit he deserved ("Inventions Convention").

- Notice that the author's last name is used, and if there is no author, the first word of the title is used. The first word of your bibliographic entry (except *a*, *an*, and *the*) is the one to use in the citation. That way anyone reading your paper can quickly locate the source in your "Works Cited."
- If it is difficult to distinguish between two sources with the same initial word, write down one or more words following the first to distinguish your source.
- If there is a page number, it is given one space after that first word.
- If you mention the author's name in the sentence, only the page number is given in the citation: (49).
- If an author has more than one item in your "Works Cited," write down the title following the name and italicize. Note the punctuation: (Burns, *Early* 9).
- When using a title of an article in quotations in your bibliography, use the quotations in your citation.
- Notice that the period at the end of a sentence comes after the parentheses.
- If you copy something that is already in quotations in your source, use the following notation: (qtd, in Johnson).
- Remember to cite photographs, graphics, etc. below the items and include your sources in your bibliography.

Works Cited

Burns, Emory. "The Early Years." The History of Invention. Houston: Crown Books, 1997.

"Edison's Automobile Inventions." 12 Dec 2001 <<http://www.udenver.edu/engineering/inventions>>.

"Inventions." Encyclopedia Britannica. 14th ed. 1999.

"Inventions Convention 98." Washington Times 11 Aug 1997: A21. Proquest. 2 Mar 1999
<http://www.umi.com/proquest>.

Johnson, Elliot. "Automobile." Encarta. CD-ROM. 1999 ed. Redmond, WA: Microsoft.

Judd, Judy. "New Things." Newsweek 27 June 1998: 59-60.

Cite in text as

(Burns 165)
("Edison's")
("Inventions"
Encyclopedia
194)
("Inventions
Convention")
(Johnson)
(Judd 59)