Citation Examples | MLA 8th Edition

New for 8th Edition: Core Elements and Containers

Source

MLA 8th edition still asks writers to consider source type before much else. Think, “What is this?” Is the item a novel, an article, a video, an essay, a Tweet? Your answer is the source type.

Core Elements

MLA defines “core elements” as details that are “common to most works” like author and title. Full list of core elements shown below:

Containers

Container 1 - the thing that holds your source, whether alone or collected with other sources (like a book, a journal, a newspaper, etc)

Container 2 - the larger thing, like a website or a database, that holds your Container 1

So then what does all this look like now? Pretty similar to what you might expect, thankfully…

(flip page for examples)
Some Citation Examples - Works Cited

Single article/chapter in an edited book


A Tweet

@miamiulibraries. “What, Why, How, Where and Who? http://dlvr.it/M8N7rD” Twitter, 30 August 2016, 10:49 a.m., twitter.com/miamiulibraries/status/770634608006148096

Magazine/Newspaper Article


Tip! Above all, consider these three (3) big ideas as you use MLA 8th ed. to format citations (courtesy of the MLA itself) (pp. 3-4):

1. Instead of worrying too much about determining the source type, cite simple traits shared by most works, like author and title.
2. Remember that there is often more than one correct way to document a source.
3. Make your documentation useful to readers.