

## A Research Guide for Students

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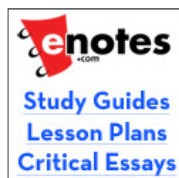
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## Chapter 10. Works Cited, References, and Bibliography - What's the Difference?

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[Works Cited in MLA Style - Sample Page](#)  
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For a detailed treatment on citing sources using MLA style with many more examples, please use the official [MLA Handbook](#):



All information relating to MLA style as presented in this Web site has been based on this authoritative publication from the Modern Language Association of America.

**Gibaldi, Joseph. [MLA Handbook](#). 6th ed. New York: MLA, 2003.**

Works Cited is sometimes referred to as References. The terms mean the same thing. Each is an alphabetical list of works cited, or works to which you have made reference. Works Cited is generally used when citing sources using MLA (Modern Language Association) style, while the title References is used when citing sources using APA (American Psychological Association) style.

Works Cited and Bibliography are not the same. In Works Cited you only list items you have actually cited. In a Bibliography you list all of the material you have consulted in preparing your essay whether or not you have actually cited the work.

Entries in Works Cited, References, or Bibliography are put in alphabetical order by last names of authors, editors, translators, etc. or by first words of titles.

If the first word of the title is "The", "A", or "An", and the word is being used as an article, e.g., in the title: [The Little Book of Irish Clans](#), the entry is placed under "Little" and the article "The" is ignored. In the title: [A Is for Apple](#), however, the entry is placed under A since A is used as a noun and not as an article in this case.

Sometimes the article "The" is used as part of the name of a company or magazine or journal for emphasis, e.g., [The Champ](#), or [The Sports Network](#). For Internet sites, use the URL as a guide. If "theyellowpages" is used in the URL, treat "The" as part of the title, and list "The Yellow Pages" alphabetically under "The". If "edge" and not "theedge" is used in the URL, list the magazine title "The Edge" under "Edge" and treat "The" as an article and ignore it.

Where appropriate, a cross reference may be used to direct readers to the proper location, e.g. [Yellow Pages](#). [The See The Yellow Pages](#).

Remember:

1. DO NOT number entries.



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2. DO NOT list citations separately by categories. All references are placed in ONE ALPHABETICAL LIST by first words of citations, regardless of where citations come from.

3. Begin on a new page. Start on the 6th line from the top (or 1" down from the top of the paper), center, and type one of the following titles: Works Cited, References, or Bibliography. Double space after the title. List all entries in alphabetical order by the first word, taking into consideration the rules governing titles that begin with articles.

4. Begin the first line of each entry flush at the left margin. Keep typing until you run out of room at the end of the line. Indent 5 spaces for second and subsequent lines of the same entry. Double-space all lines, both within and between entries. Remember that this is only a guideline adapted from the [MLA Handbook](#). You are advised to follow the style preferred by your instructor.

Works Cited, References, or Bibliography Sample Page:

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