

Exercises for Using MLA Parenthetical Citations Worksheet

Name: _____

Exercise A:

Examine each of the following pairs carefully. Indicate the passage that handles MLA in-text citations correctly and briefly explain what is wrong with the citation in the other passage.

- 1) _____
 - a. In "Death and Justice," Edward Koch, former mayor of New York City argues that "life is precious, and . . . the death penalty helps to affirm this fact (857)."
 - b. In "Death and Justice," Edward Koch, former mayor of New York City, argues that "life is precious, and . . . the death penalty helps to affirm this fact" (857).

- 2) _____
 - a. "Arguing about whether nontraditional families deserve pity or tolerance is a little like the medieval debate about left-handedness as a mark of the devil" (Kingsolver 168).
 - b. Kingsolver points out that "arguing about whether nontraditional families deserve pity or tolerance is a little like the medieval debate about left-handedness as a mark of the devil" (168).

- 3) _____
 - a. "There is a Chinese word for the female, which is slave, " writes Maxine Hong Kingston (191). "Break the women with their own tongues!" (191). She means that since women had no other word to use to refer to themselves than one meaning slave, they eventually lost any sense of dignity and independence they might once have had.
 - b. "There is a Chinese word for the female, which is slave, " writes Maxine Hong Kingston. "Break the women with their own tongues!" She means that since women had no other word to use to refer to themselves than one meaning slave, they eventually lost any sense of dignity and independence they might once have had (191).

Italics vs. Quotations:

For the following, place quotations and italics around (under) the titles:

1. Our professor, Mr. Olsen, asked us if we enjoyed reading Walt Whitman's famous poem Song of Myself.

2. One of Shari's least favorite movies is Beauty and the Beast.
3. When Alan goes to the doctor's office, he always reads Cosmopolitan.
4. Read the poem Fancy. You can find it in The Norton Anthology of Poetry.
5. Did you see The Simpson's episode called Great Expectations?

Each of the following sentences makes at least one error in MLA citation format or usage. Correct all the errors in each example. There is one sentence with some poor grammar. Demonstrate that you can properly present this knowledge in the quoted statement.

1. One major reason Ohio State is has a superior football program is because of its location "it pulls from superior feeder schools." (Allison, p. 99).
2. According to Amy Allison, English is an important field to study in high school. "it's always swell to know how to read and write good, and high school will prepare you" (Allison, 13).
3. Amy Allison argues that English programs in high schools will prepare students in the fundamentals of both reading and writing.
4. Even math and science scholars admit the importance of being well-rounded. "English sure is a heck of a lot of fun" (Gildow, 43.)
5. Gildow admits that all math and science scholars need to be schooled in English in order to succeed in their various fields, and fortunately, English is "fun (Gildow 43)."
6. Gildow concedes that students should always do their English homework (p. 43).