

<http://users.eastlink.ca/~icoffin/in-text.htm>

Using In-Text Citations

MRHS English

What is an In-Text Citation?

- In MLA style, referring to the works of others in your text is done by using what's known as **parenthetical citation** (in brackets).
- Immediately following a quotation, summary, or a paraphrase of a source's ideas, you place the author's name followed by a space and the relevant page number(s).
- The same rules apply for books, encyclopedias, Internet sites, and other online sources.

Example of Citation From a Book

- Let's say we're using information from a book written by Kenneth Burke and our subject is language use:
 - Human beings have been described as "symbol-using animals" (Burke 3).
- You can also set up your in-text citation using a **signal phrase**. In these cases, you simply use the page number as your in-text citation.
 - Scientist Kenneth Burke's has described human beings as "symbol-using animals" (3).

References Page

- Your in-text citation will correspond with an entry in your **References page**, which, for our example, will look something like this:

Burke, Kenneth. Language as Symbolic Action: Essays on Life, Literature, and Method. Berkeley: U of California P, 1966.



Notice the hanging indent?

Parenthetical Citations

- You know how to make a References page, but it's also important to know that **parenthetical citations and references pages** allow readers to know which sources you consulted in writing your essay, so that they can either:
 - verify your interpretation of the sources; or
 - use them in their own scholarly work.

When Citation is Unnecessary

- Common sense and ethics should determine your need for documenting sources.
 - You do not need to give sources for familiar proverbs, well-known quotations or common knowledge.
- Basically, any information gained through research is **NOT** common knowledge and, as a result, needs to be cited.

In-Text Citations

From 'Dalmatian Death Row'

Dalmatian Death Row

- Is 102 Dalmatians to Blame for Unwanted Pets?

Disney's new movie *102 Dalmatians* promises to be fun, heartwarming, and great entertainment. But this sequel, which features 102 adorable puppies, may mean trouble for thousands of real-life dogs. After *101 Dalmatians* was released in 1996, many fans of the movie bought *Dalmatian* puppies of their own. But dogs of this breed don't always make the best family pets. A large number ended up at animal shelters.

According to the U.S. Humane Society, pet shelters across the country took in as many as seven times the usual number of abandoned *Dalmatian* puppies that year. Many had to be euthanized -- killed with a lethal injection -- because homes could not be found for them. Now, animal activists fear the same thing will happen with *102 Dalmatians*.

Dalmatian Death Row

- Last summer, activists from three groups -- Media Partners for Pets, In Defense of Animals, and the Amanda Foundation -- demanded that Disney take responsibility for the unwanted dogs that are likely to be abandoned after the movie. They said that Disney should donate 1 percent of their profits from the movie and merchandise to animal shelters.
- Bud Disney says that's not its responsibility. The company says the movie portrays animal shelters as a great place to find a pet, and in no way encourages people to buy and abandon dogs. What do you think about *102 Dalmatians*? Is Disney responsible for abandoned pets?

Dalmatian Death Row

- **Yes**
 - Disney makes *Dalmatians* look like perfect pets -- but they're really not. They are often over-energetic and skittish around children. Disney makes a lot of money with their movies -- some of it should be set aside for the animals who suffer due to false advertising. Disney needs to take responsibility for the lives of these innocent animals.
- **No**
 - Disney made *102 Dalmatians* for entertainment -- not as an ad for dogs. It's sad that people don't care for their pets, but that's their fault, not Disney's. Disney actually promotes caring for unwanted and needy dogs, because the movie features an animal shelter. It's unfair to blame Disney for unwanted *Dalmatians*.

Summary

- According to a recent article in Scope, animal activists are demanding that Disney should donate one percent of the profits from '102 Dalmatians' to animal shelters to care for abandoned dogs (5).
- Animal activists are demanding that Disney donate one percent of profits from '102 Dalmatians' to animal shelters (Scope 5).

Quotes (3 lines or less)

- An article in Scope reported that concern over abandoned Dalmatian dogs produced by the movie '102 Dalmatians' led animal activists to demand "that Disney should donate one percent of their profits from the movie and merchandise to animal shelters" (5).

Quotes Over 4 Lines

- Scope reported that concern over abandoned Dalmatian dogs caused:

...activists from three groups – Media Partners for Pets, In Defense of Animals, and the Amanda Foundation – to demand that Disney...donate one percent of their profits from the movie and merchandise to animal shelters. (5)

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In-Class Assignment

In-Text Citation Activity!
Due Thursday, April 23

In-Text Activity

- Using three of your research sources for the upcoming essay, create the following:
 1. A **quote** incorporated into a sentence (with proper **in-text citation**).
 2. A **summary** of the content of the source (approximately 50 words with **in-text citation**).
 3. A **paraphrase** of one paragraph of the source (with proper **in-text citation**).
 4. Also include the source's **References** citation.
 - This will have three proper entries in MLA format.