

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Mastering 9th Grade Citations and Ethics

How do scholars build on the work of others without crossing into plagiarism? Apply MLA eighth edition standards and evaluate source authority.

1. You are researching the impact of the printing press on 16th-century literacy. Which source demonstrates the highest level of scholarly authority for this specific historical inquiry?

Answer: B) A peer-reviewed journal article published by a university press.

Peer-reviewed articles undergo rigorous vetting by experts in the field, making them the gold standard for academic research.

2. If you paraphrase a passage from a Maya Angelou poem by putting it completely into your own words, you are legally and academically exempt from providing an in-text citation.

Answer: B) False

Paraphrased ideas still belong to the original author; failing to cite them constitutes plagiarism, even if the phrasing is unique.

3. In MLA format, when citing a book with one author, what are the two required elements inside the parentheses for an in-text citation?

Answer: C) Author's last name and the page number

MLA style specifically requires the author's surname and the specific page number where the information was found (e.g., Angelou 42).

4. Which of the following scenarios best describes the concept of 'Common Knowledge,' which does not require a formal citation in a research paper?

Answer: C) The fact that George Washington was the first president of the United States.

Widely known historical facts that can be found in numerous general sources and are not disputed do not require citations.

5. While searching for sources on deep-sea exploration, you find a website that lacks an author's name and has not been updated since 2004. According to the RADAR or CRAAP evaluation methods, which criteria does this source most likely fail?

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Answer: B) Currency and Authority

Currency refers to the timeliness of the info (2004 is outdated for science), and Authority refers to the source of the info (missing author).

6. A 'Works Cited' page in MLA format should list entries in the order they appeared within your essay.

Answer: B) False

A Works Cited page must be organized alphabetically by the first word of the citation entry (usually the author's last name).

7. When you use a direct quote from a source like Malala Yousafzai's memoir, what punctuation is required to signal that the words are NOT your own?

Answer: C) Quotation marks

Quotation marks are the standard typographical signifier for original phrasing taken from an external source.

8. You are writing a paper on the ethics of Artificial Intelligence. Why is it important to use 'Lateral Reading' (checking what other sites say about your source) during your research?

Answer: B) To verify the reputation and potential biases of the organization publishing the data.

Lateral reading helps researchers understand the 'positioning' of a source and whether it is a reliable or biased party.

9. Which of the following is the correct way to format the title of a long-form work, such as the novel 'Things Fall Apart,' in an MLA Works Cited entry?

Answer: D) Italicized

In modern MLA style, titles of independent, long works (books, movies, albums) are italicized, while shorter works are put in quotes.

10. A summary involves condensing a large amount of information into your own words, but it still requires a citation to the original source.

Answer: A) True

Even if you summarize an entire chapter, the ideas and data originated elsewhere and must be credited to avoid plagiarism.