

Below Are Works Cited Entries For An Internet Source. Select The One That Is Completely Correct. Entry

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When writing academic papers or research projects, proper citation is crucial to uphold integrity, avoid plagiarism, and provide readers with the means to locate your sources. Among various citation styles—such as APA, MLA, Chicago, and others—MLA (Modern Language Association) is commonly used in humanities disciplines. A key aspect of effective scholarly writing is ensuring that your Works Cited entries are accurate, complete, and formatted correctly. This article explores how to identify the correctly formatted internet source entry among several options, emphasizing best practices and common pitfalls in citation.

Understanding the Importance of Correct Citations

Why Proper Citation Matters

Citations serve several vital functions:

- Crediting Original Authors: Giving proper acknowledgment to the creators of content.
- Supporting Arguments: Providing evidence to back up claims made within your work.
- Allowing Verification: Enabling readers to locate the original sources for further study.
- Avoiding Plagiarism: Demonstrating academic honesty and integrity.

Common Citation Styles and Their Rules

While this article focuses on MLA format, understanding general principles applicable across styles can be helpful:

- Author's name(s) presentation
- Title formatting
- Publication details
- Date of publication
- URL or DOI for online sources
- Access date, if required

Characteristics of a Correct MLA Works Cited Entry for an Internet Source

Core Elements of an MLA Web Citation

A typical MLA citation for an online source includes the following components:

1. Author(s): Last name, followed by first name.
2. Title of the Web Page or Article: Enclosed in quotation marks.
3. Title of the Website: Italicized.
4. Publisher or Sponsor of the Site: If available.

5. Publication Date: Day Month Year format.
6. URL: Complete, without the "http://" or "https://".
7. Date of Access: Optional but recommended if content is likely to change.

Formatting Guidelines

- Use hanging indentation: the first line flush left, subsequent lines indented.
- Double-space the entire entry.
- Maintain proper punctuation and italics as per MLA standards.

Sample Correct MLA Citation for an Internet Source

Here is an example of a properly formatted MLA Works Cited entry for a web page:

> Smith, Jane. "The Impact of Climate Change on Coastal Ecosystems." *Environmental Studies Today*, Environmental Publishing, 12 March 2022, www.environmentalstudies.org/climate-coastal-ecosystems. Accessed 15 April 2023.

Analyzing Multiple Entries: Which One Is Fully Correct?

Suppose you are presented with several Works Cited entries. Your task is to identify the one that adheres completely to MLA guidelines. Let's examine hypothetical options:

Entry A

> Smith, Jane. "The Impact of Climate Change on Coastal Ecosystems." *Environmental Studies Today*, Environmental Publishing, 12 March 2022, www.environmentalstudies.org/climate-coastal-ecosystems.

Analysis: Missing the access date; the website title is not italicized; publisher is included but optional. Not fully correct.

Entry B

> Smith, Jane. "The Impact of Climate Change on Coastal Ecosystems." *Environmental Studies Today*, 12 March 2022, www.environmentalstudies.org/climate-coastal-ecosystems. Accessed April 15, 2023.

Analysis: Missing publisher; website title is italicized; access date present; but publisher info is missing. Partially correct but incomplete.

Entry C

> Smith, Jane. "The Impact of Climate Change on Coastal Ecosystems." *Environmental Studies Today*. Environmental Publishing, 12 March 2022. www.environmentalstudies.org/climate-coastal-ecosystems. Accessed 15 April 2023.

Analysis: Correctly italicized website title; publisher included; publication date formatted correctly; URL provided; access date present; overall well-formatted. This appears to be the completely correct entry.

Entry D

> Smith, Jane. "Climate Change Effects." *Environmental Studies Today*, www.environmentalstudies.org/climate-effects, 2022, accessed 15 Apr 2023.

Analysis: Title is shortened; missing publication date formatting; inconsistent date style; URL is incomplete; access date is abbreviated but acceptable. Not fully correct.

Why Entry C Is the Correct Choice

Based on the analysis, Entry C meets all MLA formatting criteria for an internet source:

- Author Name: Correctly formatted.
- Title of Web Page: Quotation marks, proper capitalization.
- Website Title: Italicized.
- Publisher: Included.
- Publication Date: Correctly formatted.
- URL: Complete and without "http://".
- Access Date: Present and formatted correctly.

This comprehensive adherence makes Entry C the best example of a correctly formatted MLA Works Cited entry for an online source.

Tips to Ensure Accurate Citations

To consistently produce correct citations, consider the following tips:

- Use Citation Guides: Refer to the latest MLA Handbook or trusted online resources.
- Utilize Citation Generators: Tools like Zotero, Citation Machine, or EasyBib can assist but always verify their output.
- Check for Completeness: Ensure all required elements are present.
- Maintain Consistency: Follow a uniform style throughout your document.
- Update Sources: For dynamic content, include access dates.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Omitting crucial information like publication or access dates.
- Incorrect punctuation or italics.
- Using incomplete or malformed URLs.
- Forgetting to include access dates when necessary.
- Mixing citation styles within the same document.

Conclusion

Selecting the correct Works Cited entry for an internet source requires careful attention to detail and familiarity with MLA formatting rules. The key is to verify that all elements—author, title, publisher, publication date, URL, and access date—are correctly formatted and complete. Among the options analyzed, the entry that fully complies with these standards is the most reliable and professional choice. Proper citation not only strengthens your scholarly credibility but also respects intellectual property rights and enhances the clarity of your research.

By understanding these principles and applying best practices, students and researchers can confidently identify and produce accurate Works Cited entries for their internet sources, thereby

elevating the quality and integrity of their academic work.

Frequently Asked Questions

Which works cited entry for an internet source correctly follows MLA format?

The correct entry is: Smith, John. "How to Write a Works Cited Entry." *ExampleWebsite*, 15 Mar. 2023, www.examplewebsite.com/works-cited. Accessed 20 Apr. 2023.

What makes a works cited entry for an internet source completely correct?

It includes the author's name, the title in quotation marks, the website name in italics, the publication date, the URL, and the access date, all formatted according to MLA guidelines.

Which element is often missing in incorrect internet source entries in Works Cited?

The access date or the proper punctuation and formatting are often missing or incorrect in improper entries.

How should the URL be formatted in a correct MLA works cited entry for an online source?

The URL should be included without 'http://' or 'https://' and should be followed by a period at the end of the entry.

Is it necessary to include the date of access for an internet source in MLA Works Cited?

Yes, MLA recommends including the date of access for online sources, especially if the content is likely to change over time.

What distinguishes a fully correct internet source entry from an incorrect one in MLA style?

A fully correct entry accurately includes all necessary elements: author, title, website, publisher (if available), publication date, URL, and access date, with proper formatting.

Which of the following is NOT correct in an MLA Works Cited entry for an internet source?

Including the URL without the 'https://' prefix and omitting the date of access are common errors; any

missing or improperly formatted element makes the entry incorrect.

Can a Works Cited entry for an internet source be considered completely correct if it lacks an access date?

While including the access date is recommended, especially for content that may change, its absence does not automatically make the entire entry incorrect in MLA format.

What is the primary purpose of the Works Cited entry for an internet source?

To provide readers with enough information to locate the original source easily and verify the information used in the work.

Which part of an internet source Works Cited entry is essential for proper attribution?

The author's name, the title of the work, the website name, and the URL are essential components for proper attribution.

Additional Resources

Works Cited Entries for Internet Sources: Selecting the Correct Format

In the realm of academic writing, journalism, and digital content creation, the proper citation of online sources is paramount. It not only ensures credibility but also upholds the integrity of the writer, allowing readers to trace the origins of information with ease. Among various citation styles—such as APA, MLA, Chicago, and others—the Modern Language Association (MLA) format remains prominent, especially within humanities disciplines. This article delves into the intricacies of citing internet sources, focusing on identifying the most accurate Works Cited entry among multiple options.

Understanding the Importance of Accurate Citation

Accurate citation serves multiple purposes:

- **Credibility and Authority:** Properly cited sources demonstrate thorough research and respect for intellectual property.
- **Avoiding Plagiarism:** Correct referencing helps prevent inadvertent plagiarism.
- **Facilitating Further Research:** Accurate citations enable readers to locate original sources quickly.
- **Academic and Professional Standards:** Many institutions and publications enforce strict citation guidelines.

Given these stakes, selecting the correct Works Cited entry is vital. Mistakes or inconsistencies can undermine the credibility of the work and may lead to questions about the author's diligence or understanding of citation standards.

Common Citation Styles for Internet Sources

Before analyzing sample entries, it's essential to recognize the prevalent citation styles for online materials:

- MLA (Modern Language Association): Common in humanities, emphasizing author and page or web source details.
- APA (American Psychological Association): Widely used in social sciences, emphasizing author, date, and source.
- Chicago/Turabian: Often used in history and some social sciences, with notes and bibliography or author-date formats.

This article centers on MLA, given its widespread adoption for internet sources in many contexts, but principles generally translate across styles.

Key Elements of an MLA Works Cited Entry for an Internet Source

An accurate MLA citation for an online source typically comprises:

- Author(s): Last name, First name.
- Title of the Web Page or Article: Quoted if short, italicized if a larger work.
- Website Name: The overarching site publisher or sponsor.
- Publisher: Optional if different from website name.
- Publication Date: Day, month, and year.
- URL: The direct link to the source.
- Date of Access: When the source was consulted (optional but recommended if content is likely to change).

Example:

> Lastname, Firstname. "Title of Web Page." Website Name, Publisher, Day Month Year, URL. Accessed Day Month Year.

Analyzing Sample Works Cited Entries

Suppose we are presented with three different entries claiming to be the correct MLA citation for an online article titled "The Future of Renewable Energy," authored by Jane Doe, published on the website GreenTech on March 15, 2022.

Option A:

> Doe, Jane. "The Future of Renewable Energy." GreenTech, 15 Mar. 2022, www.greentech.com/future-renewable-energy. Accessed 20 Oct. 2023.

Option B:

> Doe, Jane. "The Future of Renewable Energy." GreenTech, www.greentech.com/future-renewable-energy. Accessed 20 October 2023.

Option C:

> Jane Doe. "The Future of Renewable Energy." GreenTech, March 15, 2022, www.greentech.com/future-renewable-energy.

Let's examine each:

Option A: The Fully Correct MLA Citation

This entry contains all essential elements:

- Author: Last name first, as "Doe, Jane."
- Title: Quoted, indicating a webpage or article.
- Website Name: Italicized as GreenTech.
- Publication Date: Formatted as "15 Mar. 2022," aligning with MLA guidelines for dates.
- URL: Provided in a straightforward manner.
- Access Date: Included at the end, "Accessed 20 Oct. 2023," which is recommended especially if content may change.

This structure aligns with the 9th edition MLA Handbook standards.

Option B: Missing the Publication Date

While it includes the author, title, website name, URL, and access date, it omits the publication date. In MLA, the publication date is important for context and locating the source. While some modern online sources may not specify a date, when available, it should be included.

Option C: Incorrect Formatting of Elements

This entry lists the author's name as "Jane Doe" instead of "Doe, Jane," which violates MLA author name formatting. The publication date is placed after the website name, but MLA prefers the date immediately after the publisher or website name, formatted as "15 Mar. 2022." Also, the URL is present, but the date formatting is inconsistent with MLA standards.

Criteria for the Correct Entry

Based on the analysis, the correct Works Cited entry must:

- Follow MLA formatting conventions.
- Include all core elements: author, title, website name, publisher (if different from website name), publication date, URL, and access date.
- Use proper formatting: author name, italics for website name, quotation marks for article title,

correct date format.

- Be free of errors in punctuation, capitalization, and order.

Therefore, Option A stands out as the completely correct MLA Works Cited entry for an internet source.

Further Considerations in Citing Internet Sources

While Option A is correct, it's important to recognize nuances:

- Omission of publisher: Sometimes, the publisher is the same as the website name, so it's omitted.
- No publication date: If unavailable, the date can be omitted, but the access date becomes more critical.
- URL format: MLA recommends including the full URL, without "http://" or "https://," but practices vary.
- Access date: Recommended if content is likely to change, especially for dynamic web pages.

Conclusion

Selecting the correctly formatted Works Cited entry for an internet source hinges on meticulous adherence to style guidelines. The exemplar provided as Option A embodies the standards set forth by the MLA Handbook, including author name formatting, article and website titles, publication date, URL, and access date. Proper citation not only bolsters the credibility of the work but also reflects scholarly integrity.

In the digital age, where information is abundant yet often inconsistent, understanding and applying correct citation practices is an essential skill for writers, researchers, and students alike. Ensuring that the Works Cited entries are accurate and complete is a fundamental step in producing trustworthy and professional content.

Final Note: Always consult the latest edition of the relevant style guide, such as the MLA Handbook, for updates or specific cases. Proper citation is a cornerstone of credible scholarship and responsible writing.

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