Modern Language Association (MLA)

In-Text Citations
For an in-text citation, you will need the author's name and the page number for the information you are citing.

When you have the author's name or names in the text, all you need is the page number for the in-text citation. If you are just including the idea in the text without the author's name or names, then that is included in the in-text citation.

- Bronson notes since their muscles are so flexible, cats seem to bounce when they fall rather than break any bones (32).

- Books have been banned on many grounds, including political grounds which are sometimes invoked by democratic governments when banning a book that might affect the security of the country (Karolides, Bald, and Sova, 1).

If you do not have the author's name or names or page numbers, you will need to designate another part of the reference to be used in the in-text citation. You can substitute the title of the work for a missing author's name.

- When viewing infrared satellite images, the trees growing around Mayan sites are a different color than other trees in the same area of the world (Making Sense of the Mayan Collapse).

Works Cited
In MLA style, your bibliography should be titled “Works Cited.” Begin it on a separate page, with “Works Cited” centered (but not underlined, in boldface, or in quotation marks) at the top. Entries should be alphabetical by author (or by title where there is no author), double spaced, with a hanging indentation for the first line of each entry. Books and periodical titles should be italicized; shorter works (journal articles, book chapters) should be in quotation marks. MLA also calls for Medium of Publication and, where applicable, date of access. Here are some examples:

Book, one author

Book, more than one author

Journal article

Newspaper article

Web site

Film