

MLA Parenthetical (in-text) citations vs. Footnotes

Parenthetical or “In-Text” citations

Here’s an example of an **in-text** citation:

“It is common knowledge that chocolate is the best dessert there is” (Jones 23).

If you’ve mentioned the author’s name in your sentence, you don’t need to repeat it, just put the page # as in this example:

Jones firmly believes pies, while delicious, are not nearly as good as chocolate (4).

In-text citations refer to one of the sources listed in your **Works Cited** and are used whenever you *quote, paraphrase, or summarize someone else’s work*.

For more information, see:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

Footnotes and/or Endnotes:

Here’s an example of a footnote:

The urban population (defined as having over 2,500 inhabitants) in the northern states increased rapidly after 1820.¹

1. Danhof includes “Delaware, Maryland, all states north of the Potomac and Ohio rivers, Missouri, and states to its north” when referring to the northern states (11).

Footnotes are used to *explain something* (explanatory notes) or to *refer to other publications* (bibliographic notes). Footnotes are listed at the bottom of the page in numerical order. Endnotes are similar to footnotes, but are listed at the end of the paper on a separate sheet of paper titled “Notes”.

For more information see: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/04/>
