



Academic Writing Centre
ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Things to Remember

Use your last name in a numbered page header.

Double space all lines throughout the document, including block quotations and the references on your Works Cited page.

Quotations that are 40 words or more must be blocked. Use a hanging indent to block the quote.

Enclose the author's last name and the reference page number in parentheses and put the period after the citation ; i.e., include the citation inside the sentence with the quote. (The exception is a block quotation where the period precedes the parentheses).

Use square brackets to indicate your additions to quoted material.

Use ellipses [...] to indicate omitted material.

On the Works Cited Page:

Capitalize the key words in all titles.

Italicize publication titles

Enter your references in alphabetical order according to the authors' last names.

Put quotation marks around the titles of journal articles but do not italicize them.

Use a 1/2 inch hanging indent to format each reference.

MLA References

In-Text Citations in MLA Style

Warmenhoven 3

Because the majority of popular video games draw on violent themes for their fantasies, critics suggest there is a potentially dangerous carryover of aggression into real life. Craig Anderson and Catherine Ford concluded from experiments with college students that "aggressive video games [such as Zaxxon and Centipede] can have short-term negative effects on game player's emotional state....A highly aggressive game [leads] to increased hostility and anxiety" (392).

On the other hand, the producers of *Sesame Street*, the Children's Television Workshop, have proved that video games can present their action-oriented fantasy with positive, non-violent themes (Greenfield 106). Regardless of the theme, UCLA professor Seymour Feschbach asserts that fantasy is vital to child development (Meer 12), and, as Loftus and Loftus have pointed out, in an educational setting, learning can actually be enhanced by video games that use fantasy to "provide or provoke vivid images related to the material to be learned" (231). Since children's literature from the Brothers Grimm to Dr. Seuss is rooted in fantasy, should video games be censured for presenting the same themes electronically?

Another attraction of video games is interaction, the value of which is a heated issue among critics. Because the player deals solely with the machine in most applications, worried parents fear that video games will replace social interaction. Combine this isolation with violent themes and the consequences could be dire:

It may be that the most harmful aspect of violent video games is that they are solitary in nature. A two-person aggressive game seems to provide a cathartic or releasing effect for aggression, while a solitary aggressive game [such as Space Invaders] may stimulate further aggression. (Greenfield 26)

The MLA Works Cited Page

Works Cited

Anderson, Craig A., and Catherine M. Ford. "Affect of the Game Player: Short-term Effects of Highly and Mildly Aggressive Video Games." *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 12.4 (2000): 390-402. Print.

Greenfield, Peter M. *Mind and Media: The Effects of Television, Video Games, and Computers*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999. Print.

Loftus, Gordon R., and Evelyn Loftus. *Mind at Play: The Psychology of Video Games*. New York: Basic Books, 1999. Print.

Meer, John. "Mickey Mouse vs. Donkey Kong." *Psychology Today*. (September 1998): 12. Print.

Things to Remember

When you document sources from the World Wide Web, the MLA suggests that your Works Cited entries contain as many items from the following list as are relevant and available:

- Name of the author, editor, compiler alphabetized by last name
- Title of a poem, short story, article, or short work in quotation marks
- Title of a book, in italics
- Name of the editor, compiler of a book, preceded by abbreviation, such as ed.
- Publication information as for any print version
- Title of the scholarly project, database, periodical, professional or personal site in italics or underlined
- Name of the editor of a scholarly project or database
- Version number (if not part of the title) or, for a journal, the volume, issue, or other identifying number
- Date of electronic publication or posting or latest update
- Name of any institution or organization sponsoring or associated with the Web site
- Medium of publication— Web
- Date you accessed the source
- URL in <angle brackets>, if it is the *only* way to locate the source.

Electronic References

Basic Form for MLA Works Cited Page

Works Cited

- Center for Reformation and Renaissance Studies*. Ed. Laura E. Hunt and William Barek. May 1998. U of Toronto. Web. 11 May 1999.
- NAIC Online*. 29 Sept. 1999. National Association of Inventors Corporation. Web. 1 Oct. 1999.
- Oates, Joyce Carol. "The Magnanimity of *Wuthering Heights*." *Critical Inquiry* 9 (1982): 435-449. *Celestial Timepiece: A Joyce Carol Oates Home Page*. Ed. Randy Souther. 2003. U of San Francisco. Web. 14 Aug. 2003 .
- Smith, Martin. "World Domination for Dummies." *Journal of Despotry* Feb. 2000: 66 -72. *Expanded Academic ASAP*. Gale Group Databases. Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, IN. Web. 19 February 2003. <<http://www.infotrac.galegroup.com>>.

Selected On-line Information Sites

- <http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html>
- http://www.mla.org/style_faq (This is the official MLA site)
- <http://library.osu.edu/sites/guides/mlagd.html>
- <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/09/>
- <http://www.lib.usm.edu/research/guides/mla.html>
- http://english.ttu.edu/kairos/1.2/inbox/mla_archive.html

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Academic Writing Centre
478 and 470 Sunset Avenue
Windsor, Ontario, Canada, N9B 3P4
Phone: 519-253-3000 Ext 3405
Fax 519-561-1410
Online: www.uwindsor.ca/awc

University
of Windsor
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