MLA Referencing

What is referencing?
Referencing is a way of acknowledging other peoples’ ideas and work. You do this through a citation (in the text of your work) and a reference/work cited list at the end of your work.

Citing within the text of your work
The citation within the text of your work is a brief acknowledgement (Surname Page number), of the author of the work you wish to cite. This is so your reader can locate the specific information you are referring to without needing to read the entire work. Please note quotations are in quotation marks. If an author has published more than one work in a year then include a shortened form of the title (Surname, Title Page number).

Example paraphrase:
...(Jones 27) has suggested that body image is related to self-esteem ...

Example quotation:
... whilst it is possible that “poor parenting has little effect on primary educational development it more profoundly affects secondary or higher educational achievement” (Jones, Primary Education 22).

More authors?
Two authors - (Knowles and Bishop 214) showed that direction...
More than two authors - (Peterson et al. 119 – 230)

References list and bibliography
References list: a list of all the sources that you have cited within your work
Bibliography: a list of everything that you have cited and everything that you have used to help improve your understanding of the topic. Check to see if your tutor wants a references list or a full bibliography.

Book
Format
Example

Journal article
Format
Example

Newspaper
Format
Example
MLA Referencing

Website Format
Author/Editor surname, First name. Title of work. Title of website if different. Edition or version (if given). Publisher or sponsor of site (if unavailable use n.p.), date of publication (day month year as available, if unavailable use n.d.). Medium of publication. Date of access.

Example

Example Essay (please note this is a fictional example, only the references are correct).
Domestic violence is still prevalent within our society (Harne and Radford 209). However, “progress [has] been made in helping the general public to recognize the signs and raise awareness of the many support networks in the UK.” (Harne and Marshall, Support Networks in the UK 128–40.).

The education of health practitioners now includes ways of identifying and supporting victims of domestic violence “the NMC recognizes the importance of community nurses in supporting families to contact the support services where domestic violence occurs” (Williamson et al. 25).

References List—(check with your tutor to see if they want just a references list or a full bibliography)


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We recommend you consult your tutor to see if they have a preferred referencing style.