

## How to Cite Resources for Argumentative Papers & Speeches in MLA Style (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) (link to [Libraries](#))

Instructions for citing:

Create a **resource** list consisting of helpful sources which provide basic information about the topic of a paper or speech, including those to be cited with **paraphrased** and **quoted** text in the research paper. *Wikipedia* and other general encyclopedias might be included in this initial list, but typically not cited in an academic research paper.

From the initial list, the final **Works Cited** list is created and consists of sources cited in the paper. This list should be arranged in alphabetical order.



**TIP!** Choose sources based on the **pros and cons** of an argumentative topic, regardless of the position taken in the paper or speech.

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### Sample Works Cited

❶ Palm Beach State database

Ashworth, William, and Charles E. Little. "Alternative Energy Sources." *Encyclopedia of Environmental Studies*. New ed. New York: Facts On File, 2001. N. pag. *Science Online*.

Web. 13 Feb. 2009. ❶

Cooper, Mary H. "Exporting Jobs." *CQ Researcher* 20 February 2004: 149-72. *CQ Researcher Online*. Web. 12 Feb. 2009. ❶

"Delta Stops Sending Customer Service Calls To India." *The New York Times*. 18 April 2009: B2(L). *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 6 August 2009. ❶

"Government Bailouts." *Issues & Controversies On File* 30 Mar. 2009: n. pag. *Issues & Controversies*. Web. 6 August 2009. ❶

"Issue Guide: Economy." *Public Agenda for Citizens*. Public Agenda, 29 July 2009. Web. 29 July 2009.

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Kane, Tim, Brett D. Schaefer, and Alison Acosta Fraser. "Outsourcing Does Not Harm America." *At Issue: Does Outsourcing Harm America?* Ed. Katherine Read Dunbar. Detroit: Greenhaven, 2006. N. pag. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 6 August 2009. ❶

Lee-St. John, Jeninne. "The 10 Best Chores to Outsource." *Time*. 24 Dec 2007: 83. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 6 August 2009. ❶

Piatak, Tom. "Outsourcing Threatens American Workers." *Opposing Viewpoints: Globalization*. Ed. Louise I. Gerdes. San Diego: Greenhaven, 2006. N. pag. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 12 February 2009. ❶

Notes about databases in **Sample Works Cited** list.  
All databases provide a variety of sources. Focus of several listed here:

*CQ Researcher*, objectively-written articles.  
*Issues & Controversies*, objectively-written articles.  
*Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*, viewpoint essays.  
*Science Online*, reference sources.

Other: *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, reference sources.

Cite **paraphrased** and **quoted** sources within text of a paper according to the entries in the **Works Cited** list. Examples below are linked to the **Sample Works Cited** list on this sheet.

### Paraphrase

William Ashworth and Charles E. Little define alternative energy sources ... renewable fuels...

### Quotation

Piatak disdains ... adds, "the antidote to outsourcing is a return to economic patriotism ..."

- For assistance with details of grammar, spelling, and other writing and speech outlining questions, visit the [SLC Writing Lab](#). Also see [The Bedford Handbook](#).
- Several guidelines from the [MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. \(2009\)](#):
  - No underlining; use italics instead (see 3.3, pp. 78-9)
  - When to include URL
    - if, without it, reader could face difficulty finding source
    - if **your instructor requires it**
  - **Flexibility of MLA style:** "improvise" when unanticipated features encountered
  - **"Be consistent..."** with styles when writing all citations
  - **Verification of websites:** chance of "disappearing sites, ... download, ... print, [or email] ..." retrieved references and save for later – just in case (5.6.1, pp. 182-3)