MLA Format 8th EDITION

As introduced by:
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A NEW approach

- “Cite simple traits shared by most works.”
- “Remember that there is often more than one correct way to document a source.”
- “Make your documentation useful to readers.”

(on pp. 3-4)
BUT?

how
1. THINK about the sources you’re documenting
2. Select information about your source that’s appropriate for your project & will be helpful to readers
3. Organize it logically & without complication
CORE Elements

...Containers? Location?
What do these new words even mean?
When a source is part of a larger whole (article IN a magazine, chapter IN a book, etc.), think of the larger whole as a “container” holding the source” (30).

Like editors, illustrators, translators, and the like.

Ex’s: 7th edition, expanded edition, etc.

If it’s in a numbered sequence, like magazines, journals, TV series, etc.

Who published it. Notice they removed the city of publication.

Most recent update of YOUR version

Page numbers, URLs, DOIs, etc.
MORE Elements

When you have a source with a container located inside something else (like a journal article in a you found on a database, or a chapter in a book found on Google Books, etc.)...

...then we have a container inside a container. Notice how the first core elements container nestles inside the larger container, ordered from smallest thing to biggest.
• ‘Medium’ no longer listed for common sources (print, web, etc.). Only list medium if it’s an unusual thing (like a transcript, address, or ad). Then list it at the end after the period (see pp. 52-3).

• **URLs come back!**

• Whatever you don’t use, skip. (...but you have to do your best to find it, even if it’s on another page, like an “about us” page on a website, etc.)

• **Citations always end with a period.** Other punctuation follows the elements model.
• Volume, issue, and page #’s now include abbreviations of these words. For example:

• Use slashes to indicate more than one equally important publisher. For example:
  *Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible.*
  Folger Shakespeare Library / Bodleian Libraries, U of Oxford / Harry Ransom Center, U of Texas, Austin, manifoldgreatness.org.

• Indent block quotes only ½” from left margin (not 1”).
https://style.mla.org/works-cited-a-quick-guide/
so now, let’s practice!

Use the containers worksheet to help you create citations for the following kinds of resources:

- The book on your table.
- The first sample essay in chapter 3.
- A website we might use for research.
- Fun/interesting database article.
- Advertisement from magazine on your table.
- Interview of your classmate.
and of course the obligatory Works Cited: