

Word 2007 and up will default to a font style (easy-to-read), font size (10 or 12), margins (1" all around) and spacing (double) suitable for MLA formatting.

Lastname 1

Insert Page Number and type your name to the left of the number. This should be on all pages of your paper, including the Works Cited page.

First Lastname

Type the MLA heading on the first four lines: your name, teacher name, class name, and date. This heading goes on the first page only.

Mrs. Teacher

12 CP Language Arts

1 August 2011

Title: Caps, but no underline, no bold, no large font, no quotation marks, no italics.

Stop Animal Cruelty

After the title, hit enter once and start typing.

"I made my first kill. We sprayed fluid down her throat. Her neck caught on fire inside and out. It was true beauty" (qtd. in "Animal Abuse"). These were the words written in the diary of murderer Luke Woodson on torturing his dog ("Animal Abuse").

Of almost 2,000 animal cruelty cases reported in 2007, 64% involved dogs ("Animal

Cruelty"). Although animals are not people, they are still living creatures and should not be subjected to purposeful suffering.

Titles of published works are italicized, not underlined.

An arguable thesis statement typically ends the first paragraph and sets the tone for the rest of the paper.

Animals deserve rights because they can think and feel. According to the book *Animal Rights*, animal rights is a belief system that animals should have the same rights as humans (Levine 9). People who believe in animal rights disagree with dog fighting, which is illegal and a felony offense in all 50 states ("Dog Fighting FAQ"). Recently,

quarterback Michael Vick served 23 months in prison and home confinement due

to his role in a dog fighting ring ("Vick Takes Himself Out"). Not only did he force

dogs to fight, those that did not perform well were subject to horrible deaths by hanging

or drowning (Werder). These punishments are not acceptable for one human to perform

on another human, and they should not be acceptable practice for humans to perform on

any animal as well.

In-text citations occur after the quote or paraphrased information and BEFORE the period.

Citations include the author's name and page number with NO comma in between. If no author, use the title (or a shortened version of the title) in quotation marks. For more citation help, see the In-Text Citations Handout.

The Works Cited page begins on a new page and is a list of all the sources cited in your paper. Keep all formatting the same as your paper – normal font and size, with 1” margins all around, and your last name and page number in the upper right.

Works Cited

After the words Works Cited, hit enter once and start typing. No underline, bold, etc.

"Animal Abuse Case Details." *Pet-Abuse.com*. Pet-Abuse.com, 2011. Web. 12 July 2011.

Works Cited entries are listed in alphabetical order. No numbering, bullet points, etc.

"Animal Cruelty Facts and Statistics." *The Humane Society of the United States*. The Humane Society of the United States, 6 May 2011. Web. 12 July 2011.

"Dog Fighting FAQ." *ASPCA*. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 2011. Web. 12 July 2011.

Works Cited entries require a "reverse indent," meaning the first line is flush against the left and the rest of the entry is indented. If you have trouble making Word indent the second line, place your cursor before the second line, hit Enter, and then Tab.

Levine, Herbert M. *Animal Rights*. Austin: Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1998. Print.

"Vick Takes Himself Out o' the Game." *New York Post* [New York, NY] 17 Feb. 2011: 74. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*. Web. 12 July 2011.

Werder, Ed. "Apologetic Vick Gets 23-month Sentence on Dogfighting Charges." *ESPN: The Worldwide Leader In Sports*. ESPN, 11 Dec. 2007. Web. 12 July 2011.

MLA no longer requires URLs in the Works Cited. Instead, you must write "Web" before the date of access in the entry or "Print" if the work is a book, pamphlet, etc. This serves as the entry's publication marker. However, your teacher may require the URL, so be sure to check.

For more guidelines about Works Cited entries, please see the handout called "Sample MLA Citation Formats."