**MLA Citation for Frederick Douglass Text**

(From the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl>)

**In-text citations: MLA 8th Edition**

MLA (Modern Language Association) format follows the author-page method of in-text citation. This means that the author's last name and the page number(s) from which the quotation or paraphrase is taken must appear in the text, and a complete reference should appear on your Works Cited page. The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase, but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence. For example:

Douglass states, “I was born in Tuckahoe, near Hillsborough, and about twelve miles from Easton, in Talbot county, Maryland” (23).

OR

The very first lines of the text are significant. “I was born in Tuckahoe, near Hillsborough, and about twelve miles from Easton, in Talbot county, Maryland” (Douglass 23).

Both citations in the examples above, (23) and (Douglass 23), tell readers that the information in the sentence can be located on page 23 of a work by an author named Douglass. If readers want more information about this source, they can turn to the Works Cited page, where, under the name of Douglass, they would find the following information:

(Separate Page)

Work Cited

Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave, Written by Himself*. Belknap Press, 1960.

#### Basic Book Format for MLA 8th Edition

The author’s name or a book with a single author's name appears in last name, first name format. Double space, indent second lines 5 spaces. The basic form for a book citation is:

Last Name, First Name. Title of Book. Publisher, Publication Date.