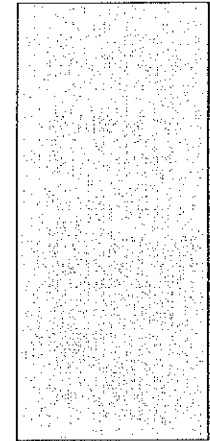


FORMATTING AN ESSAY

COLLEGE PREPARATORY



HEADERS

- Subject/Class English 12
- Teacher's last name Jefferson
- Date 10.28.2011
- Your Name A. Woodward
- Title
- Left justify

- Note: do not use larger fonts for headers.

Page Numbers:

Start on page 2, with last name preceding. Right justify.

Woodward 2

PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE

- Never longer than half of a page
- Indent first line ½ inch
- Use proper punctuation
- Never use contractions
- Do not use slang terms or phrases
- Capitalize: I, proper nouns, etc.
- Do not use fragments or run-on sentences
- Do not state the same thing twice in one sentence
- Avoid using the word because too often
- Write out numbers one through ten.
- For Annette's students, always use Cambria 12 point font, double spaced(unless otherwise instructed).

DIRECT QUOTES, SUMMARY AND PARAPHRASE

- For direct quoting, always use quotation marks.
- Use in-text (parenthetical) references for any borrowed material.
- Do not insert quotes without engaging them in your text. (Do not use them as fillers.)
- Summary and paraphrase are used to put something into your own words.
- Use them more often than direct quotes.
- Be sure to use in-text references.

Spelling:

Use a spellchecker. There is no excuse for misspelled words.

WORKS CITED

- For any paper when some of the content has been borrowed, a works cited page is required.
- Annette's students, use MLA formatting
- See handouts for examples
- There must be a parenthetical reference for each works cited entry.
- Follow the rubric and the examples given.
- Hanging first line ½ inch.
- See www.mla.org for more examples.

PRACTICE!

- Cite the given anthology. Use the example. (An anthology is a collection of literary works.)
- Cite “The Communist Manifesto”.
- Write parenthetical references for each.
- Look at the works cited page on the example essays.
- Remember, it is PLAGARISM if you do not cite your sources.
- Summarize page 178 of “Civil Disobedience”.



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FOR
COLLEGE WRITERS

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University of Connecticut

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Acknowledgments

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1. A book with one author

Gilligan, Carol. In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1982.

2. A book with two or three authors

Lifton, Robert Jay, and Greg Mitchell. Who Owns Death: Capital Punishment, the American Conscience, and the End of Executions. New York: Morrow, 2000.

Wilcox, Dennis L., Phillip H. Ault, and Warren K. Agee. Public Relations: Strategies and Tactics. 6th ed. New York: Irwin, 2005.

Give the authors' names in the order provided on the title page. Reverse the first and last names of the first author *only*, not of any other authors. Separate two authors' names with a comma and *and*; separate three authors' names with commas and *with and* before the third name.

3. A book with more than three authors

Lopez, Geraldo, Judith P. Salt, Anne Ming, and Henry Reisen. China and the West. Boston: Little, 2004.

Lopez, Geraldo, et al. China and the West. Boston: Little, 2004.

You may, but need not, give all authors' names if the work has more than three authors. If you choose not to give all names, provide the name of the first author only, and follow the name with a comma and the abbreviation *et al.* (for the Latin *et alii*, meaning "and others").

4. Two or more works by the same author(s)

Gardner, Howard. The Arts and Human Development. New York: Wiley, 1973.

---. The Quest for Mind: Piaget, Lévi-Strauss, and the Structuralist Movement. New York: Knopf, 1973.

Give the author's name only in the first entry. For the second and any subsequent works by the same author, substitute three hyphens for the author's name, followed by a period. (If you are citing two or more works by the same editor, editors, or translator, follow the hyphens with a comma and *ed.*, *eds.*, or *trans.* as appropriate. See models 5, 6, and 7.) Note that the three hyphens stand for *exactly* the same name or names. If the second source above were by Gardner and somebody else, both names would have to be given in full.

Place an entry or entries using three hyphens immediately after the entry that names the author. Within the set of entries by the same author, arrange the sources alphabetically by the first main word of the title, as in the preceding examples (*Arts*, then *Quest*).

5. A book with an editor

Holland, Merlin, and Rupert Hart-Davis, eds. The Complete Letters of Oscar Wilde. New York: Holt, 2000.

Handle editors' names like authors' names (models 1–3), but add a comma and the abbreviation *ed.* (one editor) or *eds.* (two or more editors) after the last editor's name.

6. A book with an author and an editor

Mumford, Lewis. The City in History. Ed. Donald L. Miller. New York: Pantheon, 1986.

When citing the work of the author, give his or her name first, and give the editor's name after the title, preceded by *Ed.* (singular only, meaning "Edited by"). When citing the work of the editor, use model 5 for a book with an editor, adding *By* and the author's name after the title: Miller, Donald L., ed. The City in History. By Lewis Mumford.

7. A translation

Alighieri, Dante. The Inferno. Trans. John Ciardi. New York: NAL, 1971.

When citing the work of the author, give his or her name first, and give the translator's name after the title, preceded by *Trans.* ("Translated by"). When citing the work of the translator, give his or her name first, followed by a comma and *trans.*; then follow the title with *By* and the author's name: Ciardi, John, trans. The Inferno. By Dante Alighieri.

When a book you cite by author has a translator and an editor, give the translator's *and* editor's names in the order used on the book's title page.

8. A book with a corporate author

Lorenz Research, Inc. Research in Social Studies Teaching. Baltimore: Arrow, 2000.

Corporate authors include associations, committees, institutions, government bodies, companies, and other groups. List the name of the group as author when a source gives only that name and not an individual's.

9. An anonymous book

The Dorling Kindersley World Reference Atlas. London: Dorling, 2005.

List a book that names no author—neither an individual nor a group—by its full title. Alphabetize the book by the title's first main word (here *Dorling*), excluding *A*, *An*, or *The*.

10. The Bible

The Bible. King James Version.

The New English Bible. London: Oxford UP and Cambridge UP, 1970.

When citing a standard version of the Bible (first example), do not underline the title or the name of the version, and you need not provide publication information. For an edition of the Bible (second example), underline the title and give full publication information.

11. A later edition

Bolinger, Dwight L. Aspects of Language. 3rd ed. New York: Harcourt, 1981.

For any edition after the first, place the edition number after the title. (If an editor's name follows the title, place the edition number after the name. See model 18.) Use the appropriate designation for editions that are named or dated rather than numbered—for instance, Rev. ed. for "Revised edition."

12. A republished book

James, Henry. The Golden Bowl. 1904. London: Penguin, 1966.

Republished books include paperbound editions of books originally released in hard bindings and books reissued under new titles. Place the original date of publication (but not the place of publication or the publisher's name) after the title, and then provide the full publication information for the source you are using. If the book was originally published under a different title, add this title at the end of the entry and move the original publication date to follow the title—for example, Rpt. of Thomas Hardy: A Life. 1941.

13. A book with a title in its title

Eco, Umberto. Postscript to The Name of the Rose. Trans. William Weaver. New York: Harcourt, 1983.

When a book's title contains another book title (as here: *The Name of the Rose*), do not underline the second title. When a book's title contains a quotation or the title of a work normally placed in quotation marks, keep the quotation marks and underline both titles: Critical Response to Henry James's "The Beast in the Jungle." (Note that the underlining extends under the closing quotation mark.)

14. A work in more than one volume

Lincoln, Abraham. The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Ed. Roy P. Basler. 8 vols. New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 1953.

Lincoln, Abraham. The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Ed. Roy P. Basler. Vol. 5. New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 1953. 8 vols.

If you use two or more volumes of a multivolume work, give the work's total number of volumes before the publication information (8 vols. in the first example). Your text citation will indicate which volume you are citing (see pp. 462–63). If you use only one volume, give that volume number before the publication information (Vol. 5 in the second example). You may add the total number of volumes to the end of the entry (8 vols. in the second example).

If you cite a multivolume work published over a period of years, give the inclusive years as the publication date: for instance, Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1978-90.

15. A work in a series

Bergman, Ingmar. The Seventh Seal. Mod. Film Scripts Ser. 12. New York: Simon, 1995.

Place the name of the series (not quoted or underlined) just before the publication information. Abbreviate common words such as *modern* and *series*. Add any series number after the series title.

16. Published proceedings of a conference

Watching Our Language: A Conference Sponsored by the Program in Architecture and Design Criticism. 6-8 May 2005. New York: Parsons School of Design, 2005.

Whether in or after the title of the conference, supply information about who sponsored the conference, when it was held, and who published the proceedings. Treat a particular presentation at the conference like a selection from an anthology (model 18).

17. An anthology

Kennedy, X. J., and Dana Gioia, eds. Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama. 9th ed. New York: Longman, 2005.

Cite an entire anthology only when citing the work of the editor or editors or when your instructor permits cross-referencing like that shown in model 19. Give the name of the editor or editors (followed by ed. or eds.) and then the title of the anthology.

18. A selection from an anthology

Mason, Bobbie Ann. "Shiloh." Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama. Ed. X. J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. 9th ed. New York: Longman, 2005. 643-54.

33. An entire online site (scholarly project, professional site, personal site, etc.)

A scholarly project or professional site:

American Verse Project. 16 May 2001. U of Michigan Humanities Text Initiative. 21 July 2005 <<http://www.hti.umich.edu/a/amverse>>.

When citing a scholarly project or professional site, include the following: ① Title of the site, underlined. ② Date of publication or most recent update. ③ Name of any organization or institution that sponsors the site. ④ Date of your access. ⑤ URL. If the project or site has an editor or compiler, add the name, preceded by Ed. or Comp., between the site title and the publication date. See the Conrad entry on p. 484.

A personal site:

Lederman, Leon. Topics in Modern Physics--Lederman. 28 Aug. 2005. 12 Dec. 2005 <<http://www-ed.fnal.gov/samplers/hsphys/people/lederman.html>>.

Cite a personal site with this information: ① Author's name, if any. ② Title, if any, underlined. If the site has no title, describe it with a label such as Home page, without quotation marks or underlining. ③ Date of last revision. ④ Date of your access. ⑤ URL.

A business site:

Prius. 2006. Toyota Motor Corp. 2 Feb. 2006 <<http://www.toyota.com/prius>>.

For the site of a corporation or other business, give the following: ① Site title, underlined. ② Date of site. ③ Name of sponsoring business. ④ Date of your access. ⑤ URL.

34. A poem, essay, or other short work from an online site

Wheatley, Phillis. "On Virtue." Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral. London: A. Bell, 1773. American Verse Project. 16 May 2001. U of Michigan Humanities Text Initiative. 21 July 2005 <<http://name.umdl.umich.edu/BAP5379>>.

See the model and screen shots on the facing page for an analysis of this entry and the location of the required information on the Web site.

Information for a short work from an online site

Wheatley, Phillis. "On Virtue." Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral. London: A. Bell, 1773. American Verse Project. 16 May 2001. U of Michigan Humanities Text Initiative. 21 July 2005 <<http://name.umdl.umich.edu/BAP5379>>.

Home page of site

① Title of the site, underlined. ② Date of publication or most recent update. ③ Name of any organization or institution that sponsors the site. ④ Date of your access. ⑤ URL. If the project or site has an editor or compiler, add the name, preceded by Ed. or Comp., between the site title and the publication date. See the Conrad entry on p. 484.

⑥ Name of the sponsor, ending with a period. ④ Site title, underlined and ending with a period. ⑤ Date of electronic publication or last update. Give the day first, then month, then year. Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July. End the date with a period.

Source record for poem

③ Publication information for any print version. If the site gives information for a print version of the source, as here, provide it after the source title, following an appropriate model on pp. 468-79.

⑧ URL of the short work, enclosed in angle brackets. If the URL is long, temporary, or unique to your search, use the URL of the site's home page.

Poem

① Author. Give the full name—last name first, a comma, first name, and any middle name or initial. Omit *Dr.*, *PhD.*, or any other title. End the name with a period. If you don't see the author's name at the top of the page, look at the bottom. If no author is listed, begin with the title.

② Title of the short work, in quotation marks. End the title with a period inside the final quotation mark.

⑦ Date of your access. Give the day first, then month, then year. Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July. Do not end the date with a period. (Since this date does not appear on the site, record it separately.)

⑧ URL of the short work, enclosed in angle brackets. If the URL is long, temporary, or unique to your search, use the URL of the site's home page.

35. An online book

An entire book:

① Austen, Jane. Emma. 1816. Ed. R. W. Chapman. Oxford: Clarendon, 1926. Oxford
 Text Archive. 2004. Oxford U. 15 Dec. 2005 <[http://ota.ahds.ac.uk/
 Austen/Emma.1519](http://ota.ahds.ac.uk/Austen/Emma.1519)>.

For a book published online, give the following information: ① Author and title. ② Date of original publication of the book if not given in item 4. ③ Name of any editor or translator. ④ Any publication information for the original print version of the book, following one of models 1–17 (pp. 469–73). ⑤ Title of the site, underlined. ⑥ Date of electronic publication. ⑦ Name of any sponsoring organization or institution. ⑧ Date of your access. ⑨ URL for the book. If the site has an editor, add the name after the site's title (see the following model).

A part of a book:

① Conrad, Joseph. "A Familiar Preface." Modern Essays. Ed. Christopher Morley.
 New York: Harcourt, 1921. Bartleby.com: Great Books Online. Ed. Steven
 van Leeuwen. Nov. 2000. 16 Feb. 2006 <[http://www.bartleby.com/237/
 8.html](http://www.bartleby.com/237/8.html)>.

For a part of a book published online, provide this information: ① Author of the part. ② Title of the part, in quotation marks. (Do not use quotation marks for Introduction, Foreword, or another standard part.) ③ Title of the book (underlined), editor of the book (if any), and publication information for the print version of the book. ④ Title of the site (underlined) and editor of the site (if any). ⑤ Date of electronic publication. ⑥ Date of your access. ⑦ URL for the part of the book. If the site as a whole has a sponsoring organization, give the name between the date of electronic publication and the date of your access (see the Austen model above).

36. An article in an online journal

Palfrey, Andrew. "Choice of Mates in Identical Twins." Modern Psychology 4.1
 (2003): 26-40. 25 Feb. 2006 <[http://www.liasu.edu/modpsy/
 palfrey4\(1\).htm](http://www.liasu.edu/modpsy/palfrey4(1).htm)>.

Give the following information for an online scholarly article that you reach directly: ① Author, article title, journal title, volume and any issue numbers, and publication date, as in model 22 or 23

(pp. 475–77). ② Page numbers in the journal or total number of pages, paragraphs, or sections, if any of these are given. Omit reference numbers if the source does not use them. ③ Date of your access. ④ URL for the article.

For a journal article reached through a subscription service, see model 31 (p. 480).

37. An online abstract

Palfrey, Andrew. "Choice of Mates in Identical Twins." Modern Psychology 4.1
 (2003): 26-40. Abstract. 25 Feb. 2006 <[http://www.liasu.edu/modpsy/
 abstractpalfrey4\(1\).htm](http://www.liasu.edu/modpsy/abstractpalfrey4(1).htm)>.

Treat an online abstract like an online journal article (model 36), but add Abstract (without quotation marks or underlining) between the publication information and the date of your access.

38. An article in an online newspaper or on a newswire

Still, Lucia. "On the Battlefields of Business, Millions of Casualties." New York
 Times on the Web 3 Mar. 2005. 17 Aug. 2005 <[http://www.nytimes.com/
 specials/downsize/05down1.html](http://www.nytimes.com/specials/downsize/05down1.html)>.

Provide the following information for an online newspaper article that you reach directly: ① Author, article title, newspaper title, and publication date as in model 26 (p. 477). Give section, page, or paragraph numbers if the newspaper does. ② Date of your access. ③ URL for the article.

Treat a newswire article similarly, substituting the title of the wire service for the newspaper title (this article is anonymous):

"Film, Fashion Asked to Stop Glamorizing Smoking." Reuters 18 Feb.
 2003. 28 Feb. 2003 <[http://www.reuters.com/
 newsArticle.jhtml?type=industryNewsID2246811](http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=industryNewsID2246811)>.

See model 31 (p. 480) when citing a newspaper or newswire article that you reached through a subscription service.

39. An article in an online magazine

Lewis, Ricki. "The Return of Thalidomide." Scientist 22 Jan. 2001: 5. 24 Jan.
 2006 <http://www.the-scientist.com/yr2001/jan/lewis_pl_010122.htm>.

Provide the following information for an online magazine article that you reach directly: ① Author's name, article title, magazine title, and publication date, as in model 24 or 25 on p. 477. ② Any

page, paragraph, or other reference numbers. ③ Date of your access. ④ URL for the article.

See model 31 (p. 480) when citing a magazine article that you reached through a subscription service.

40. An online review

Detwiler, Donald S., and Chu Shao-Kang. Rev. of Important Documents of the Republic of China, ed. Tan Quon Chin. Journal of Military History 56.4 (1992): 669-84. 16 Sept. 2005 <<http://www.jstor.org/cgi-bin/jstor/viewitem.fcgi/08993718/96p0008x>>.

Cite an online review as follows: ① Author, any review title, Rev. of and the title of the reviewed book, author or editor of the reviewed book, and publication information—all as in model 29 (p. 478). ② Date of your access. ③ URL for the review.

See model 31 (p. 480) when citing a review that you reached through a subscription service.

41. An online government publication

United States. Dept. of Commerce. National Telecommunications and Information Admin. A Nation Online: Entering the Broadband Age. Feb. 2005. 1 Mar. 2005 <<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/reports/anol/index.html>>.

See p. 491 for models of government publications in print. Provide the same information for online publications, and add facts of electronic publication. The model above includes the following: ① Names of government, department, and agency. ② Title of publication, underlined. ③ Date of publication. ④ Date of your access. ⑤ URL for the publication.

42. An article in an online encyclopedia or other information database

Dull, Jack L. "Wu-ti." Encyclopaedia Britannica Online. 2004 Encyclopaedia Britannica. 23 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article?tocid:9077599>>.

For an article in an encyclopedia or other information database, provide the following: ① Author's name, if any is given. ② Title of the article, in quotation marks. ③ Title of the database, underlined. ④ Date of electronic publication. ⑤ Name of sponsoring organization or publisher. ⑥ Date of your access. ⑦ URL for the article.

See models 31 and 32 (pp. 480–81) when citing an information database that you reached through a library or personal subscription service. For encyclopedias and other reference works that you find in print or on CD-ROM, see pp. 475 and 490, respectively.

43. An online image (artwork, advertisement, graph, etc.)

In general, you can base citations of online images on the examples in model 59 (pp. 492–93), adding information for the online source, particularly site title, date of your access, and URL. The following examples show a range of possibilities:

A work of art:

Pollock, Jackson. Shimmering Substance. 1946. Museum of Modern Art, New York. WebMuseum. 12 Mar. 2003 <<http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/Pollock/pollock.shimmering.jpg>>.

A photograph:

Curtis, Edward S. Canyon de Chelly—Navaho. 1904. Lib. of Congress. American Memory. 21 July 2005 <<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.award/iencurt.cp01028>>.

An advertisement:

Absolut Vodka. Advertisement. Vanity Fair Jan. 2003. Adflip. 18 Nov. 2005 <<http://adflip.com/php?adID=14714>>.

A cartoon or comic strip:

Keefe, Mike. "Suspicious Package." Cartoon. Denver Post 21 July 2005. PoliticalCartoons.com. 6 Jan. 2006 <<http://www.politicalcartoons.com>>.

A map, chart, graph, or diagram:

Hamilton, Calvin J. "Components of Comets." Diagram. Space Art. 2003. 20 Dec. 2005 <<http://solarviews.com/eng/comet.htm>>.

44. An online television or radio program

Base citations of online television and radio programs on model 60, p. 493, adding your access date and the URL.

Gross, Terry, host. Fresh Air. National Public Radio. 11 Feb. 2006. 12 Feb. 2006 <http://discover.npr.org/freshair/day_fa.html?display=February/11/2006>.

45. An online sound recording or clip

Base citations of online sound recordings or clips on model 61, p. 493, adding your access date and the URL.

George Balanchine, chor. Serenade. Perf. San Francisco Ballet. Dir. Hilary Bean. 1991. Videocassette. PBS Video, 1997.

63. A musical composition

Fauré, Gabriel. Sonata for Violin and Piano no. 1 in A Major, op. 15.

Don't underline musical compositions, such as the one above, that are identified only by form, number, and key. Do underline titled operas, ballets, and compositions (Carmen, Sleeping Beauty).

64. A performance

Barenboim, Daniel, cond. Chicago Symphony Orch. Symphony Center, Chicago. 22 Jan. 2005.

The English Only Restaurant. By Silvio Martinez Palau. Dir. Susana Tubert. Puerto Rican Traveling Theater, New York. 27 July 2005.

As with films and television programs, place the title first unless you are citing the work of an individual (first example). Provide additional information about participants after the title, as well as the theater, city, and date. Note that the orchestra name in the first example is neither quoted nor underlined.

65. A letter

Buttolph, Mrs. Laura E. Letter to Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Jones. 20 June 1857. In The Children of Pride: A True Story of Georgia and the Civil War. Ed. Robert Manson Myers. New Haven: Yale UP, 1972. 334-35.

List a published letter under the writer's name. Specify that the source is a letter and to whom it was addressed, and give the date on which it was written. Treat the remaining information like that for a selection from an anthology (model 18, pp. 473-74). (See also p. 478 for the format of a letter to the editor of a periodical.)

For a letter in the collection of a library or archive, specify the writer, recipient, and date, as in the previous example, and give the name and location of the archive as well:

James, Jonathan E. Letter to his sister. 16 Apr. 1970. Jonathan E. James Papers. South Dakota State Archive, Pierre.

For a letter you receive, give the name of the writer, note the fact that the letter was sent to you, and provide the date of the letter:

Packer, Ann E. Letter to the author. 15 June 2005.

Use the form above for personal e-mail as well, substituting E-mail for Letter: E-mail to the author (see model 49, p. 488).

66. A lecture or address

Carlone, Dennis. "Architecture for the City of the Twenty-First Century." Symposium on the City. Urban Issues Group. Cambridge City Hall, Cambridge. 22 May 2005.

Give the speaker's name, the title (in quotation marks), the title of the meeting, the name of the sponsoring organization, the location of the lecture, and the date. If the lecture has no title, use *Lecture*, *Address*, or another description instead.

Although the *MLA Handbook* does not provide a specific style for classroom lectures in your courses, you can adapt the preceding format for this purpose:

Chang, Julia. Class lecture on the realist novel. Homans College. 20 Jan. 2006.

67. An interview

Graaf, Vera. Personal interview. 19 Dec. 2005.

Rumsfeld, Donald. Interview. Frontline. PBS. WGBH, Boston. 10 Oct. 2005.

Begin with the name of the person interviewed. For an interview you conducted, specify *Personal interview* or the medium (such as *Telephone interview* or *E-mail interview*), and then give the date. For an interview you read, heard, or saw, provide the title if any or *Interview* if there is no title, along with other bibliographic information and the date.

EXERCISE 58.1 Writing works-cited entries

Prepare works-cited entries from the following information. Follow the models of the *MLA Handbook* given in this chapter unless your instructor specifies a different style. For titles, use underlining (as here) unless your instructor requests italics. Arrange the finished entries in alphabetical order, not numbered. (You can do this exercise online at ablongman.com/littlebrown.)

- 1 A journal article titled "Networking the Classroom" by Christopher Conte. The article appears in volume 5 of CQ Researcher, a journal that pages issues continuously throughout each annual volume. Volume 5 is dated 2004. The article runs from page 923 to page 943.
- 2 A magazine article on a database that is also available in print. The author is Larry Irving. The title is "The Still Yawning Divide." The article appears in the March 12, 2005, issue of Newsweek, a weekly magazine, and starts on page 64. You consulted the article on November 14, 2005, through the database Expanded Academic ASAP from the service InfoTrac (<http://www.galegroup.com>). You reached the database through Southeast State University's Polk Library.
- 3 A government document you consulted on November 12, 2005, over the Internet. The author is the National Center for Education

New page.

Works Cited

Heading centered.

Sources are alpha-
betized by authors'
last names.Second and subse-
quent lines of each
source are indented
one-half inch.

A magazine article.

An e-mail interview.

An online news-
paper article.A law case: name
not underlined in
list of works cited.An anonymous arti-
cle listed and alpha-
betized by title.
Source obtained
through a library
subscription service.A government pub-
lication with no
named author, so
government body
given as author.Second source by
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more cited works:
three hyphens re-
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(United States).

A book.

A page on a Web
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KARL MARX

The Communist Manifesto

KARL MARX (1818–1883) was born in Germany to Jewish parents who converted to Lutheranism. A scholarly man, Marx studied literature and philosophy, ultimately earning a doctorate in philosophy at the University of Jena. After being denied a university position, however, he turned to journalism to earn a living.

Soon after beginning his journalistic career, Marx came into conflict with Prussian authorities because of his radical social views, and after a period of exile in Paris he moved to Brussels. After several more moves, Marx found his way to London, where he finally settled in absolute poverty; his friend Friedrich Engels (1820–1895) contributed money to prevent Marx and his family from starving. During this time in London, Marx wrote the books for which he is famous while also writing for and editing newspapers. His contributions to the *New York Daily Tribune* number over three hundred items between the years 1851 and 1862.

Marx is best known for his theories of socialism, as expressed in *The Communist Manifesto* (1848)—which, like much of his important work, was written with Engels's help—and in the three-volume *Das Kapital* (*Capital*), the first volume of which was published in 1867. In his own lifetime, he was not well known, nor were his ideas widely debated. Yet he was part of an ongoing movement composed mainly of intellectuals. Vladimir Lenin (1870–1924) was a disciple whose triumph in the Russian Revolution of 1917 catapulted Marx to the forefront of world thought. Since 1917, Marx's thinking has been scrupulously analyzed, debated, and argued. Capitalist thinkers have found him unconvincing, whereas Communist thinkers have found him a prophet and keen analyst of social structures.

Translated by Samuel Moore. Part III of *The Communist Manifesto*, "Socialist and Communist Literature," is omitted here.

This American government—what is it but a tradition, a recent one, endeavoring to transmit itself unimpaired to posterity but each instant losing some of its integrity? It has not the vitality and force of a single living man; for a single man can bend it to his will. It is a sort of wooden gun to the people themselves. But it is not the less necessary for this; for the people must have some complicated machinery or other, and hear its din, to satisfy that idea of government which they have. Governments show thus how successfully men can be imposed on, even impose on themselves, for their own advantage. It is excellent, we must all allow. Yet this government never of itself furthered any enterprise but by the alacrity with which it got out of its way. *It does not keep the country free. It does not settle the West. It does not educate.* The character inherent in the American people has done all that has been accomplished; and it would have done somewhat more if the government had not sometimes got in its way. For government is an expedient by which men would fain succeed in letting one another alone; and, as has been said, when it is most expedient the governed are most let alone by it. Trade and commerce, if they were not made of India-rubber, would never manage to bounce over the obstacles which legislators are continually putting in their way; and, if one were to judge these men wholly by the effects of their actions and not partly by their intentions, they would deserve to be classed and punished with those mischievous persons who put obstructions on the railroads.

But to speak practically and as a citizen, unlike those who call themselves no-government men, I ask for, not at once no government, but *at once* a better government. Let every man make known what kind of government would command his respect, and that will be one step toward obtaining it.

After all, the practical reason why, when the power is once in the hands of the people, a majority are permitted, and for a long period continue, to rule is not because they are most likely to be in the right, nor because this seems fairest to the minority but because they are physically the strongest. But a government in which the majority rule in all cases cannot be based on justice, even as far as men understand it. Can there not be a government in which majorities do not virtually decide right and wrong but conscience?—in which majorities decide only those questions to which the rule of expediency is applicable? Must the citizen ever for a moment, or in the least degree, resign his conscience to the legislator? Why has every man a conscience then? I think that we should be men first and subjects afterward. It is not desirable to cultivate a respect for the law, so much as for the right. The only obligation which I have a

right to assume is to do at any time what I think right. It is truly enough said that a corporation has no conscience; but a corporation of conscientious men is a corporation *with* a conscience. Law never made men a whit more just; and, by means of their respect for it, even the well-disposed are daily made the agents of injustice. A common and natural result of an undue respect for law is that you may see a file of soldiers, colonel, captain, corporal, privates, powder-monkeys,³ and all, marching in admirable order over hill and dale to the wars, against their wills, ay, against their common sense and consciences, which makes it very steep marching indeed and produces a palpitation of the heart. They have no doubt that it is a damnable business in which they are concerned; they are all peaceably inclined. Now, what are they? Men at all? or small movable forts and magazines at the service of some unscrupulous man in power? Visit the Navy-Yard,⁴ and behold a marine, such a man as an American government can make, or such as it can make a man with its black arts—a mere shadow and reminiscence of humanity, a ~~man~~ laid out alive and standing, and already, as one may say, buried under arms with funeral accompaniments, though it may be—

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,
As his corse to the rampart we hurried;
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot
O'er the grave where our hero we buried.⁵

The mass of men serve the state thus, not as men mainly, but as machines, with their bodies. They are the standing army, and the militia, jailers, constables, posse comitatus,⁶ &c. In most cases there is no free exercise whatever of the judgment or of the moral sense; but they put themselves on a level with wood and earth and stones; and wooden men can perhaps be manufactured that will serve the purpose as well. Such command no more respect than men of straw or a lump of dirt. They have the same sort of worth only as horses and dogs. Yet such as these even are commonly esteemed good citizens. Others—as most legislators, politicians, lawyers, ministers, and office-holders—serve the state chiefly with their heads; and, as they rarely make any moral distinctions, they are as likely to serve

5 *same*
of the
law.

³ **powder-monkeys** The boys who delivered gunpowder to cannons.

⁴ **Navy-Yard** This is apparently the U.S. naval yard at Boston.

⁵ These lines are from "Burial of Sir John Moore at Corunna" (1817) by the Irish poet Charles Wolfe (1791–1823).

⁶ **posse comitatus** Literally, the power of the county; the term means a law-enforcement group made up of ordinary citizens.