MLA Basic Format

MLA papers should all be 12-point font, Times New Roman, and double spaced. As for the layout of the page, there should be a 1-inch margin on top, bottom and each side.

Last name page#

Your Name

Your Instructor's Name

Course Number or Name

Date Month Year

Title

Introduction should be the first part of your essay and should include your thesis which would be your main idea/point/argument of your entire essay. Think of your thesis as the outline of your paper.

The next few paragraphs should be the body of your essay, containing the supports to your arguments. These body paragraphs should have the following parts: a topic sentence, supporting sentences/evidence and a concluding sentence. Each paragraph should deal with only one concept and should be developed through support and evidence.

The conclusion of your essay should add a closing summary of your paper, a restatement of your thesis and a "so what?" factor. Why did you write this paper? What was the point? End it with the next steps or the conclusion of your argument.

In Text-Citations

(author's last name pg#)

If there is no author, you would use the title of the article/website. For example:

("John Dewey" 3)

If there is no page, you would not include it.

Works Cited

Your works cited page should be on a separate page and should also be double spaced with a 12-point Times New Roman font. You should still not skip lines between citations. The citations should also have a hanging indentation of 0.5 inches. Here are some formatting examples:

For a book:

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

For an online source/article:

Author. "Title.", Version (edition), Number (vol. and/or no.), Publisher, Publication Date,

     Location (pages, paragraphs and/or URL, DOI or permalink)., Publisher, Publication

     date, Location, Date of Access (if applicable).

Last name page#

Works Cited

Henley, Patricia. *The Hummingbird House*. MacMurray, 1999.

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008,

     owl.english.purdue.edu/owl. Accessed 23 Feb. 2020.

For more examples of formatting sources, you can visit *owl.purdue.edu* or MLA Handbook

(Eight Edition) Handbook