

Bibliography FAQs for Audiobook Users

This guide to writing a bibliography was developed for students that use audio materials, but can be used with all students writing required book reports and papers.

What is a bibliography?

A bibliography is a critical component of every research paper. It provides the reader with a list of all of the resources that were used to get the information to write the paper. Here are some bibliography facts:

- The two most commonly used styles of bibliographies are MLA (Modern Language Association) and APA (American Psychological Association).
- MLA is most frequently used in liberal arts and humanities papers such as literature, language or philosophy.
- APA is most frequently used for social science papers such as history, psychology or education.
- Both styles have distinct formatting requirements for such elements as font, spacing, paper sections and title page. Your teacher or professor will tell you which style to use.
- Bibliographies are always arranged alphabetically

Why is a bibliography so important?

A bibliography is important because it allows the reader to trace the information given directly back to the source and to check for validity. It is also a key step in avoiding plagiarism.

Are there any resources to help me?

There are a multitude of resources available on the Internet to guide you through citing works and creating a bibliography. Some schools have links to help students on their school websites; always consult these first. There are also programs on the Internet that place reference information in the correct format when it is input. Always check with your teacher to be sure that this is acceptable. In addition, there are informational websites that provide guidance such as the Purdue Online Writing Lab (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>) and Diane Hacker Research and Documentation Online (<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>).

It seems like there are a lot of different types of references that I could use. Are there any basics that I could master?

Although there are differences for each style, here is an example of what the bibliography format would look for a single author book in both formats: APA and MLA. Don't forget to pay close attention to spacing, capitalization, font style and punctuation.

APA

Book by a single author

Last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Copyright date). *Title of book*. City and state of

publisher: Name of publisher.

McBride, J. (1996). *The color of water: A black man's tribute to his white mother*. New York, New York: Riverhead.

Periodical

Last Name, First initial. Middle Initial. (Year). Title of article. *Title of Periodical*, volume number (issue number), pages.

McShane, S. (2007). Relating reading research to practice: Two resources for adult education teachers. *Perspectives on Language and Literacy*, 33(4), 43-46.

Online Article

Last name, First initial. Middle Initial. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Online Periodical*, volume number(issue number if available). Retrieved month day, year, (if necessary) from <http://www.someaddress.com/full/url/>

Fraser, G.A., Crook, A.C., & Park, J.R. (2007). A tool for mapping research skills in undergraduate curricula. *Bioscience Education*, 9. Retrieved Aug. 11, 2009, from <http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol9/beej-9-1.aspx>

MLA

Book by a single author

Last name, First name. Title of Book. Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication.

McBride, James. The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother. New York, New York: Riverhead, 1996.

Periodical

Last name, First name. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical Day Month Year: pages.

McShane, Susan. "Relating Reading Research to Practice: Two Resources for Adult Education

Teachers.” Perspectives on Language and Literacy Fall 2007:43-46.

Website

Name of Site. Date of Posting/Revision. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site

(sometimes found in copyright statements). Date you accessed the site [electronic address].

Learning Through Listening. 2009. Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. August 11, 2009

[[http://www.learningthroughlistening.org/Universal-Design-for-Learning-UDL/UDL-and-](http://www.learningthroughlistening.org/Universal-Design-for-Learning-UDL/UDL-and-Audiobooks/109/)

[Audiobooks/109/](http://www.learningthroughlistening.org/Universal-Design-for-Learning-UDL/UDL-and-Audiobooks/109/)]