MHRA STYLE GUIDE
FOR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH STUDENTS
INTRODUCTORY VERSION

ENGLISH LITERATURE PROGRAMME (Footnote Style)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME (Author Date Style)
English Literature Modules

What do you want to produce?

A citation to be placed in a footnote
  A reference to a book
  A reference to a chapter in a book
  A reference to an article in a journal

A bibliography entry
  A reference to a book
  A reference to a chapter in a book
  A reference to an article in a journal
If your source is a book prepare your FOOTNOTE citation exactly as follows


Things to get right, in order:

- Author’s name as it appears on the book’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the book, *in italics*, with capital letters where appropriate, then a space
- Brackets containing the publisher data with exact punctuation as follows -- (City: Publisher, Year)
- These brackets are followed by a comma, then a space
- The page number of your citation displayed accurately: p. followed by a space then the number. More than one page is presented like this: pp. 230-31
- Finish footnotes with a full stop.
If your source is a titled essay in a book prepare your FOOTNOTE citation exactly as follows:


Things to get right, in order:
- Author’s name as it appears on the essay’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the article, in single inverted commas, with capital letters where appropriate, then a comma and the word in
- Full title of the book in italics followed by a comma and the phrase ed. by
- Book editor’s name as it appears on the book’s title page, then a space
- Brackets containing the publisher data with exact punctuation, followed by a comma
- Give the full page range in the accurate format pp. followed by a space then the number range
- NOTE no comma after this number range
- Give the page number of your citation in brackets with accurate punctuation
- Finish footnotes with a full stop.
If your source is an article in a journal prepare your FOOTNOTE exactly as follows. Always include this information, not the database URL:


Things to get right, in order:

- Author’s name as it appears on the article’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the article, in single inverted commas, with capital letters where appropriate, then a comma and a space
- Full title of the journal *in italics* followed by a comma and a space
- The journal issue number followed by a full stop with no space and the journal volume number, then a space
- Brackets containing the year of publication, followed by a comma and a space
- Give the full page range of the article in the accurate format followed by a space. NOTE number range is not preceded by pp. for journal articles
- Give the page number of your citation in brackets with accurate punctuation
- Finish footnotes with a full stop.
If your source is a book prepare your BIBLIOGRAPHY citation exactly as follows


Things to get right, in order:

- Author’s surname as it appears on the titlepage, followed by a comma and a space
- Author’s first name as it appears on the titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the book, *italics*, with capital letters where appropriate, then a space
- Brackets containing the publisher data with exact punctuation as follows -- (City: Publisher, Year)
- No full stop at the end of a bibliography entry
If your source is a titled essay in a book prepare your BIBLIOGRAPHY entry exactly as follows:

Owen, Sue, 'The Lost Rhetoric of Liberty: Marvell and Restoration Drama', in Marvell and Liberty, ed. by W. Chernaik and M. Dzelzainis (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1999), pp. 334-53

Things to get right, in order:

- Author’s surname as it appears on the essay’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Author’s firstname as it appears on the essay’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the article, in single inverted commas, with capital letters where appropriate, then a comma and a space and the word in
- Full title of the book in italics followed by a comma and the phrase ed. by
- Book editor’s name as it appears on the book’s title page, then a space
- Brackets containing the publisher data with exact punctuation, followed by a comma
- Give the full page range in the accurate format pp. followed by a space then the number range
- Do not end bibliography entries with a full stop
If your source is **an article in a journal** prepare your BIBLIOGRAPHY entry exactly as follows. Always include this information, not the database URL:


**Things to get right, in order:**

- Author’s surname name as it appears on the article’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Author’s first name name as it appears on the article’s titlepage, followed by comma and a space
- Full title of the article, *in single inverted commas*, with capital letters where appropriate, then a comma and a space
- Full title of the journal *in italics* followed by a comma and a space
- The journal *issue number* followed by a full stop *with no space* and the journal *volume number*, then a space
- Brackets containing the year of publication, followed by a comma and a space
- Give the full page range of the article *in the accurate format*. NOTE number range is not preceded by pp. for journal articles
- Do not finish bibliography entries with a full stop.
Every item of published work that you refer to or directly quote in your work must receive a full citation.

This includes two items: 1. a reference in the body of your text; and 2. a bibliography

What do you want to produce?

A reference to be placed in the text of your work

A bibliography entry at the end of your work
  A reference to a book
  A reference to an essay in a book
  A reference to an article in a journal
How to place a reference to a published work in your text

References in the text should be in brackets and include:
• the surname of the author followed by a space and then
• the publication date of the work followed by a colon
• if a page or range of pages is referred to or quoted, a page reference should also be given

For example:
  Pidgins contrast with creoles, which are created when pidgins acquire native speakers (Crystal 1992: 302).

When the author’s name is given in the text, it should not be repeated in the reference. In such cases, the reference either follows the name or, if this seems stylistically preferable, may come at some other point in the same sentence:
  Smith (1977: 66) argues that […]
  Smith, who was known for his contentious views, replied (1977: 66) that […]
  Smith regards this interpretation as ‘wholly unacceptable’ (1977: 66).
If your source is a book prepare your author/date style BIBLIOGRAPHY entry exactly as follows:


Things to get right:

- Author’s surname, as it appears on the titlepage, followed by a comma
- Author’s firstname or initial, as it appears on the titlepage, followed by a stop
- The year of publication, followed by a stop
- The title of the book *in italics*
- Brackets including the city of publication, followed by a colon and a space, then the publisher
If your source is **an essay in a book** prepare your author/date style BIBLIOGRAPHY entry exactly as follows:


Your reference list must also include the details of the book the essay comes from


**Things to get right, in order:**

- Author’s surname, as it appears on the titlepage, followed by a comma and space
- Author’s firstname or initials, as appearing on the titlepage, followed by a stop
- The title of the chapter in inverted commas, with capitalisation as appropriate, followed by a comma after the inv. comma.
- The word ‘in’ followed by the surname of the editor(s) and a space
- The date of publication followed by a colon and a space
- The page range of the essay in the book
- Do not end bibliography entries with a full stop
If your source is **an article in a journal** prepare your author-date style BIBLIOGRAPHY entry exactly as follows. Always include this information, not the database URL:


Things to get right, in order

- Author’s surname, followed by a comma and a space
- Author’s forename or initial(s) as appearing on the title page, followed by a stop and a space
- The date of publication followed by a stop
- The title of the article in *inverted commas* with capitalisation as appropriate followed by a comma and a space
- The title of the journal *in italics* followed by a comma
- The volume number of the journal followed by a colon and a space
- The page range of the journal article
- Do not end with a full stop