



Identifying Sources from Bibliographies: Some Diagnostics

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Note: The examples presented here are in an earlier edition of the MLA (Modern Language Association) format (6th edition). The most recent is the 8th edition. However, the diagnostic criteria for distinguishing among the sources apply to the latest edition, as well as to most generally accepted citation formats.

1. If the Source is a Book

You can recognize a book because

- Information about the publisher is always provided.
- The title is generally underlined or in italics.

Example:

Chomsky, Noam. *The Minimalist Program*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1995.

TITLE

LOCATION AND
NAME OF PUBLISHER

2. If the Source is a Chapter or an Article in a Book

- The title of the chapter or article is neither underlined nor in italics.
- The chapter or article title comes **before** the title of the whole book.
- Information about the publisher of the book is provided.
- The page numbers of the chapter or article are given.

Example:

Toschi, Luca, "Hypertext and Authorship." *The Future of the Book*. Ed.

TITLE OF
CHAPTER

TITLE OF
ENTIRE BOOK

Geoffrey Nunberg. Berkeley: University of California
Press, 1996, 169-208.

LOCATION
AND NAME
OF
PUBLISHER

PAGE NUMBERS OF CHAPTER

3. **If the Source is an Article in a Journal or Magazine**

- The title of the article is neither underlined nor in italics.
- The title of the article comes **before** the title of the journal or magazine.
- The volume number is given, as well as the page numbers of the article.
- There will be **NO** information about the publisher.

Example:

Christianson, Kiel and Fernanda Ferreira. "Conceptual Accessibility and
Sentence Production in a Free Word Order Language (Odawa)."

TITLE OF
THE
ARTICLE

Sentence Production in a Free Word Order Language (Odawa)."

TITLE OF THE
JOURNAL

Cognition 98 (2005): 105-135.

VOLUME
NUMBER OF
THE
JOURNAL

PAGE
NUMBERS OF
THE
ARTICLE

4. **If the Source is an Article in a Newspaper**

- The date will follow the name of the newspaper, day, month, year.
- The edition of the paper and section in which the article appears may be specified.

Example:

Healey, Patrick. "Clinton's Remark on Ruling Irks Gay Rights

PAGE
NUMBER

Advocates." *New York Times* 8 July 2006, late ed., sec. B: 3.

DATE IN DAY,
MONTH, YEAR
ORDER

EDITION OF
THE
NEWSPAPER
AND SECTION
OF THE
ARTICLE