Using Internal Citations - MLA Style, 8th edition

Focus on giving sources for all your facts. When you have a fact in your outline or essay, you must show which source from your bibliography it came from.

Internal Citation Examples:

Even though the United States had broken the Japanese code, "U.S. commanders had no idea that Pearl Harbor was a specific target" (Shirer 272). --This is an example of a direct quote

Relations between the Japanese and the United States were deteriorating. The breakdown began in 1931 when Japanese army extremists, in defiance of government policy, invaded and overran the northern-most Chinese province of Manchuria ("Day"). --This is an example of a paraphrase/summary of info

Bibliog. Entries that match with the internal citations above:

"The Day of Infamy." World War II: Valor in the Pacific. National Parks Service. 25 July 2006. http://www.nps.gov/valr/historyculture/stories.htm. Accessed on 12 Oct. 2016.

Shirer, Frank R. "Pearl Harbor." Dictionary of American History. Ed. Stanley I. Kutler. 3rd ed. Vol. 6. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2003. 271-273. Gale Virtual Reference Library. http://go.galegroup.com. Accessed 17 Oct. 2016.

In general, use the first item in the citation to show source for your internal citations (skip the, an, a).

In text citation MLA Style – looks like this at the END of each fact sentence

Note that the period goes only at the very end.

Internet and other Non-Print sources	Printed works		
1 Author (Sandoval).	1 Author (Sandoval 76).		
2 Authors (Smith and Flurry).	2 Authors (Smith and Flurry 237).		
3 or more authors (Night et al).	3 or more authors (Night et al 6).		
No specific author of an article ("Salmon").	No specific author of an article ("Salmon" 3).		
You need to go to the 1st word that identifies this unique source on	You need to go to the 1 st word that identifies this unique		
the bib – so 1 word will often work (but not just The, A, Of, etc.)	source on the bib – so 1 word will often work		
Film (Midnight Run).	No author article ("Midnight Madness").		
A sample of when you need to go past the 1st word to identify this			
unique source on the bib. if there are 2 entries that start with			
Midnight			
Interview of any sort (Sherwood).			
2 articles from same author : Add the first word of the title:	2 books from same author : Add the first word of the		
(Clemmitt, "National"). and (Clemmitt, "Financial").	title:		
	(Joyce, Portrait 27). and (Joyce, Ulysses 220).		
Several sources that start the same word?	A book with no author whose title also starts the same		
"India as a World Power" and "India in Today's Economy"	way? Go as far as you need to show exactly which source		
becomes ("India as"). and ("India in"). and	this matches up with. (India Today 267).		
2 interviews or authors with same last name	2 authors with same last name		
(D. Smith). or (S. Smith).	(D. Smith 24). or (S. Smith 7).		

The Basic Rule: Use only as much as you need to uniquely identify which source you used.

See the Librarians if you want more support or if you have questions. Also, Noodletools will suggest an internal citation for all of your correctly completed source citations. ©

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MLA Parenthetical Reference

Example for your source
A parenthetical reference to this Book might look like this:

...the end of your sentence (Shirer [Page #]). Customize the example: Page number(s)*: Note: If the database does not provide page numbers from the original print source, omit the page number(s) from your in-text reference.