

CORE ELEMENTS EXPLAINED

WHAT IS A "CONTAINER"?



Because sources can be found in multiple ways (e.g. a movie clip can be referenced from Netflix, on a DVD, on YouTube, or in a movie theater; a poem may be part of an anthology or collection; an article may be part of a journal and/or an online database), the "container" is the host of the source, the larger collection, or basically where the writer accessed—or found—the source.

- 1 Author.
- 2 Title of source.
- 3 Title of container,
- 4 Other contributors,
- 5 Version,
- 6 Number,
- 7 Publisher,
- 8 Publication date,
- 9 Location.

MAINTAIN ORDER

Always use this order (and punctuation) when citing a source. Skip the elements that do not pertain to your source.

REPEAT 3-9 FOR ADDITIONAL CONTAINERS

Repeat core elements 3-9 for each additional container in your source.

CORE ELEMENTS	EXPLAINED
1 Author.	The writer(s) or individual(s) responsible for creating the work. For three or more authors, only cite the first one listed the "et. al" to indicate there are additional authors.
2 Title of source.	The title of the article, book, image, video, song, poem, etc. Use italics for longer works that are self-contained (books, websites, films, plays, periodicals, TV shows, albums); use quotation marks for shorter works that are part of a larger container (articles, video clips, stories, poems, songs, episodes, chapters, web pages).
3 Title of container,	A container is the larger host of the source. The title is italicized followed by a comma. Some sources may contain two or more containers (e.g. an article from a journal hosted in a database). The second (and subsequent) container(s) is listed AFTER the location of the first container.
4 Other contributors,	This refers to people OTHER than the author(s), such as editors, translators, illustrators, etc.
5 Version,	The version can refer to a volume, edition, revision, etc. This INCLUDES e-book editions, such as Kindle, EPUB, and PDF.
6 Number,	Number refers to the issue number or number of a volumed set. (Note: "vol." and "no." are abbreviated and are not capitalized. Use a comma in between the two.)
7 Publisher,	The publisher is the one who made the source available to the public. For books, it is the publishing company. For websites, it may be a university, museum, etc. You do NOT have to include publisher for periodicals (journals, magazines, newspapers) or for websites in which the container has the same/similar name as the publisher (e.g. Time.com).
8 Publication date,	The date that is most relevant to your source. If you used a print source, give the publication date listed (most recent). If you used an online source, list the date it was published online. You do NOT need to list the date you accessed it.
9 Location.	Where the source material (quote, image, video) is found. Print sources=page numbers; online sources=URL or DOI (Digital Object Identifier). *You do NOT need to include http:// or https:// for URLs.
10 Optional Elements.	These are optional details you may wish to include. They can appear at the end of the citation, or wherever it may make sense to you or your reader. Options include: the title in a series, date of original publication, identifying a source as a lecture or transcript, a previously published source, etc.

TYPE OF SOURCE	EXAMPLE CITATION
Book (print) with Optional Elements	Fitzgerald, F. Scott. <i>The Great Gatsby</i> . 1925. HarperPress, 8 July 2010, pp. 57-61. Collins Classics.
Book (eBook)	Fitzgerald, F. Scott. <i>The Great Gatsby</i> . Kindle ed., Amazon Digital Services, 22 July 2016, pp. 59-65.
Poem or story in anthology (print)	Joseph, Allison. "The Athlete." 1998. <i>Literature: A Pocket Anthology</i> , edited by R.S. Gwynn, 6th ed., Pearson, 2015, pp. 581-52.
Poem or story (online)	Berry, Wendell. "Enemies." <i>Entries: Poems</i> , Random House, 1994. <i>Poetry Foundation</i> , www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poems/detail/58187.
Periodical (print)	Snierston, Dan. "The True Legend of Zelda." <i>Entertainment Weekly</i> , no. 1422, 15 July 2016, pp. 40-41.
Periodical: special edition issue (print)	Li, Shirley. "Pokémon Go: Inside the Catch-'Em-All Craze." <i>Entertainment Weekly</i> , Special Comic-Con Double 2016, nos. 1423 / 1424, 22 July 2016 / 29 July 2016, p. 20.
Periodical (online)	Kim, Larry. "Multitasking is killing your brain." <i>Observer</i> , 2 Feb. 2016, observer.com/2016/02/multitasking-is-killing-your-brain/.
Periodical two authors (online)	Lutz, Ashley, and Matthew Townsend. "Big Brother Is Watching You Shop." <i>Bloomberg Businessweek</i> , 15 Dec. 2011, www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2011-12-15/big-brother-is-watching-you-shop.
Video (online)	Yankovic, "Weird AI". "'Weird AI' Yankovic - Word Crimes." <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by alyankovicVEVO, 15 July 2014, www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Gv0H-vPoDc.
Database article with 3 authors (online)	Crosnoe, Robert, et. al. "Gender, body size and social relations in American high schools." <i>Social Forces</i> , vol. 86, no. 3, 2008, pp. 1189+. <i>Opposing Viewpoints in Context</i> , ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/AcademicJournalsDetailsPage/AcademicJournalsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodId=OVIC&>windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Journals&limiter=&currPage=&commentary=true&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&search_within_results=&p=OVIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALE%7CA177828256&source=Bookmark&u=erie6138&jsid=703c500714ccd64c908f32fc283ed1e4.

<p>Database article with 3 containers (online)</p>	<p>Mulrine, Anna. "Drones over America: Public Safety Benefit or 'Creepy' Privacy Threat?" <i>Domestic Surveillance</i>, edited by Tamara Thompson, Greenhaven Press, 2015, pp. 91-92?. <i>Christian Science Monitor</i>, 13 March 2013, www.csmonitor.com/USA/Society/2013/0313/Drones-over-America-public-safety-benefit-or-creepy-privacy-threat. <i>Opposing Viewpoints in Context</i>, ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/ViewpointsDetailsPage/ViewpointsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodlId=OVIC&windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Viewpoints&limiter=&currPage=&commentary=true&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&search_within_results=&p=OVIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALE%7CEJ3010928212&source=Bookmark&u=erie6138&jsid=94e4074999d9598bf811fd971d15f841.</p> <p>Variation using 2 containers and optional elements: Mulrine, Anna. "Drones over America: Public Safety Benefit or 'Creepy' Privacy Threat?" <i>Domestic Surveillance</i>, edited by Tamara Thompson, Greenhaven Press, 2015, pp. 91-92?. <i>Opposing Viewpoints in Context</i>, ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/ViewpointsDetailsPage/ViewpointsDetailsWindow?failOverType=&query=&prodlId=OVIC&windowstate=normal&contentModules=&display-query=&mode=view&displayGroupName=Viewpoints&limiter=&currPage=&commentary=true&disableHighlighting=true&displayGroups=&sortBy=&search_within_results=&p=OVIC&action=e&catId=&activityType=&scanId=&documentId=GALE%7CEJ3010928212&source=Bookmark&u=erie6138&jsid=94e4074999d9598bf811fd971d15f841. Originally published in <i>Christian Science Monitor</i>, 13 March 2013, www.csmonitor.com/USA/Society/2013/0313/Drones-over-America-public-safety-benefit-or-creepy-privacy-threat.</p>
<p>Song (CD)</p>	<p>Twenty One Pilots. "Ride." <i>Blurryface</i>, Fueled by Ramen, 2015, track 3.</p>
<p>Song (Online)</p>	<p>Twenty One Pilots. "Ride." <i>Blurryface</i>, 2015, track 3. <i>Spotify</i>, open.spotify.com/track/2Z8WuEywRWYTKe1NybPQEW.</p>
<p>Performance (live)</p>	<p>Yankovic, "Weird Al." "Word Crimes." <i>The Return of the Mandatory World Tour</i>, 9 Aug. 2016, McGrath Amphitheater, Cedar Rapids, IA. Live performance.</p>
<p>Video (online)</p>	<p>Yankovic, "Weird Al". "Weird Al' Yankovic - Word Crimes." <i>YouTube</i>, uploaded by alyankovicVEVO, 15 July 2014, www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Gv0H-vPoDc.</p>
<p>Movie (DVD)</p>	<p><i>12 Years a Slave</i>. Directed by Steve McQueen. Twentieth Century Fox, 2014.</p> <p>Variation customized for the focus of research: Zimmer, Hans, composer. <i>12 Years a Slave</i>. Directed by Steve McQueen, Twentieth Century Fox, 2014.</p> <p>Ejiofor, Chiwetel, performer. <i>12 Years a Slave</i>. Directed by Steve McQueen, Twentieth Century Fox, 2014.</p>
<p>Movie (online)</p>	<p><i>Radio</i>. Directed by Michael Tollin, 2003. <i>Netflix</i>, netflix.com/title/60031265.</p>
<p>TV episode (online)</p>	<p>"Listen." <i>Doctor Who</i>, season 8, episode 4, BBC America, 13 Sept. 2014. <i>Amazon Video</i>, www.amazon.com/dp/B01CCNKSEA?autoplay=1&t=9.</p>
<p>Public Service Announcement (online)</p>	<p>"#WeAreAmerica." <i>Ad Council</i>, 4 July 2016. <i>Facebook</i>, www.facebook.com/adcouncil/videos/10153526065146890/.</p>

Podcast (online)	Koenig, Sarah, host and executive producer. "The Alibi." <i>Serial Podcast</i> , season 1, episode 1, This American Life, 3 Oct. 2014, serialpodcast.org/season-one/1/the-alibi.
Podcast (iTunes)	Koenig, Sarah, host and executive producer. "The Alibi." <i>Serial Podcast</i> , season 1, episode 1, This American Life, 3 Oct. 2014. <i>iTunes</i> , itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/s01-episode-01-the-alibi/id917918570?i=1000319686008&mt=2.
Lecture (live)	Orman, Jason. "The Cold War." <i>American History III</i> , 6 Feb. 2015, Erie High School, Erie, IL.
Personal interview	McConnell, Tim. Personal interview. 12 June 2016.
E-mail	Stewart, Keith. "Re: Opinion on MLA 8th Edition." Received by Tracee Orman, 30 July 2016.
Image/artwork (live)	Seurat, Georges. <i>Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte</i> . 1884-86, Art Institute of Chicago. Variations: Bontecou, Lee. Steel and canvas sculpture. 1963, Museum of Modern Art, New York. NASA. <i>Untitled photograph from the Apollo 11 mission</i> . Object no. 1807.2015.1, 20 July 1969, Museum of Modern Art, New York.
Image/artwork (online)	Picasso, Pablo. <i>Violin and Grapes</i> . <i>Museum of Modern Art</i> , 2016, www.moma.org/collection/works/78578?locale=en.
Infographic (online)	Brown, Mary. "Harry Potter vs. Star Wars Infographic." <i>Bēhance</i> , uploaded by WKU Ad +PR, 7 Nov. 2014, www.behance.net/gallery/21127611/Mary-Brown-Harry-Potter-vs-Star-Wars-Infographic.
Social media (online)	@CNNbrk. "First cases of Zika virus transmitted by mosquitoes in the continental U.S. confirmed in Florida." <i>Twitter</i> , 29 Jul 2016, 6:47a.m., twitter.com/cnnbrk/status/759022459190333440. Variations (using emojis/emoticons): @themuseumofmodernart. "🚀 #Apollo11 landed on the moon on this day in 1969." <i>Instagram</i> , 20 July 2016, www.instagram.com/p/BIGW7ouAc34/?taken-by=themuseumofmodernart. @RWitherspoon. "@taylorswift13 Loved your amazing words! Keep encouraging all those young women to write their stories & sing their songs #Grammys 📺❤️." <i>Twitter</i> , 15 Feb. 2016, 10:53 p.m., twitter.com/RWitherspoon/status/699456467791962112.
Comment on a web page (online)	Hollandbeck, Andrew. Comment on "'Think Different' or 'Think Differently'?" <i>Quick and Dirty Tips</i> , 20 May 2016, 8:51 a.m., www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/think-different-or-think-differently. Variation using pseudonym as name: John10. Comment on "Videos show Chicago police firing at fleeing car and handcuffing dying suspect." <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , 5 Aug. 2016, 3:08 p.m., www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-police-shooting-video-shocking-20160805-snap-story.html.