**Interpreting a Bibliography**

**Purpose:** Upon completion of this activity, students will be able to read a citation in MLA format and will understand the relevance of citation to their college-level papers. **This DLA should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.**

Go to [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRZIdbaVys4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRZIdbaVys4) or search YouTube for “How to Read a Citation” from the University of Arkansas. Watch the short video. If you are working in the Writing and Reading Center, you will need to check out headphones from the reception desk using your student ID card or your driver’s license.

1. While watching the video, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:
   a. According to the video, citations function like a map in what way?
   b. Why do writers cite their sources?
   c. What are the three major citation manuals and which one will you be using for the papers you write for your college classes?
   d. What common elements are included in all source citations?
   e. In APA style, article titles are presented in standard typeface. In MLA format, article titles are distinguished by what?

2. For more information on MLA citation, please visit [https://style.mla.org](https://style.mla.org) or access the *MLA Handbook* 8th edition here in the Writing Center.

3. Read the following citations from the *MLA Handbook* 8th edition and answer the questions that follow:


(1) Who wrote “The Reading Brain: Differences between Digital and Print”?
________________________________________

(2) What kind of source is this? _____________________________________________

(3) In the first entry, what kind of source is PMLA? How do you know?
________________________________________

(4) In the third entry, what does Oxford UP (University Press) refer to?
________________________________________

(5) What kind of source is the third entry? How do you know?
________________________________________

(6) Which of the four sources is most recent? What is its date of publication?
________________________________________

4. Using the information you have gathered during this activity, please write a short essay of at least 300 words in which you summarize the content of the YouTube video for an audience who has not seen it, and then discuss the relevance of the information found there to the work you are doing in your English or ESL course as well as to any work you are doing in other courses on campus. Please cite at least one source at the end of your short essay. If you need help citing your source, please use the MLA practice template found here.

5. Attach your short essay to the back of this sheet, and then meet with an instructor or tutor. Ask the instructor/tutor (1) if your answers are correct; (2) if your paragraph is well-organized, if it has enough detail, and if it is complete; and (3) if the citation is correct.

Attach a confirmation sheet or get a signature below:

Instructor Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Return this completed, signed sheet to your instructor.