

MLA Citation Guide

	Fiction or Nonfiction	Poetry
Quotation Marks	<p>Quotations begin and end with double quotation marks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "But I have no humanity. I'm an alien. Like Superman. You didn't hear?' He makes a noise like a laugh, but it is devoid of joy" (Yoon 202). <p>Dialogue is noted through single quotation marks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "'But I have no humanity. I'm an alien. Like Superman. You didn't hear?' He makes a noise like a laugh, but it is devoid of joy" (Yoon 202). 	<p>Quotations begin and end with double quotation marks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Are you - Nobody - too? Then there's a pair of us!" (Dickinson, lines 3–4).
Citation	<p>The author and page number are cited in parentheses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "But I have no humanity. I'm an alien. Like Superman. You didn't hear?' He makes a noise like a laugh, but it is devoid of joy" (Yoon 202). 	<p>The author and line numbers are cited in parentheses with a comma between the author and the lines of poetry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Are you - Nobody - too? Then there's a pair of us!" (Dickinson, lines 3–4).
Format	<p>If a quotation ends in a period, the period is removed from the quotation and placed after the citation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "But I have no humanity. I'm an alien. Like Superman. You didn't hear?' He makes a noise like a laugh, but it is devoid of joy" (Yoon 202). <p>If the quotation ends in an exclamation point or a question mark, this punctuation stays at the end of the quotation, and a period is added after the citation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "'Why choose a seventeen-year-old girl? Why not choose a philosopher or a scientist or a religious leader?'" (Yoon 196). <p>If an author spaces text onto a new line, follow the author's decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I fit all the descriptions,' he says. This time, when he starts to pull off his mask, she doesn't stop him. He hesitates for a moment, and all she sees is the lower half of his face. Dark brown skin" (Yoon 207). 	<p>If citing more than one line of poetry, the lines should be separated by a slash with a space on either side:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Are you - Nobody - too? / Then there's a pair of us!" (Dickinson, lines 3–4). <p>If the quotation ends in a period, the period is removed from the quotation and placed after the citation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The baby is a boy (citizen). He goes to school (citizen)" (Olivarez, line 7). <p>If the quotation ends in an exclamation point, question mark, or other special punctuation like a hyphen or parentheses, the punctuation stays at the end of the quotation, and a period is added after the citation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Are you - Nobody - too? / Then there's a pair of us!" (Dickinson, lines 3–4).