HANDOUT: BIBLIOGRAPHIES MADE EASY!

Bibliographies are required for all entries. Your bibliography is a reflection of the depth of your research, making it a crucial part of your project. We know that they can be one of the most frustrating and difficult parts of the History Day process! With the invention of online reference and citation websites, the process has been made far less painful. Below are tips to make the process easier.

For each source you find

Record
- When you find a new source, write down all required information for each source. Keep track of this in the same place for all your sources. The information is slightly different for different types of sources. See the examples below for more information. Remember: You can use MLA or Turabian format for your citations.
- Don’t wait until the last minute. Bibliographies can be time-consuming, detailed work. It is much easier to complete citations for each source as you go along
- Don’t cite Google or Ask.com as sources. These are search engines. It would be like citing the library where you found a book as the author

Reflect
- As you use each source, make some notes about how the source was useful to you and what it contained. It’s easier to write it down as you use it, rather than trying to remember later.
- Use annotations wisely. Make sure to note sources that were extremely helpful. This is also your opportunity to explain less well-known sources, especially websites.

Review
- As you start to prepare your bibliography, group your sources into different sections: Primary Sources and Secondary Sources. Keep a separate section for images and pictures/illustrations.
- Alphabetize your source within the Primary and Secondary source categories. Don’t number your sources in your bibliography.
- When done, polish your annotations and make sure each annotation explains what it was and how it was useful to your research.

Sample MLA (7th Edition) Citation Formats

Books (Print):
Last Name, First Name. Book Title. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.

Newspaper Article (Print):
Last Name, First Name. “Article Title.” Newspaper Name [City] Day Month Year Published: Page(s). Print.

Encyclopedia (Print):

Websites:
Last Name, First Name. “Article Title.” Name of Website. Website Publisher, Date Month Year Published. Web. Date Month Year Accessed. <URL>.  
*URL is optional unless the source cannot be located without it or if required by your teacher.

For More Information:
- Easy Bib: www.easybib.com
- Purdue Online Writing Lab: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
## SAMPLE: BIBLIOGRAPHY CITATIONS IN MLA FORMAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Source</th>
<th>Citation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newspaper Article</strong></td>
<td>“Democrats' Platform Calls for Aid to Four Freedoms.” <em>Minneapolis Star</em>, 15 July 1948, sec. 1, p. 3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*When citing a photo, speech, document, or other primary source found in a secondary source, use the “found in” citations above. These are complete sources and are reproduced without someone else’s interpretations, so you can likely categorize as primary. Quotes, on the other hand, should not be categorized as primary. These are fragments of primary sources. Consider looking for the source of these quotes – the original document, speech, etc. – which would be categorized as primary.*
SAMPLE: SELECTED ANNOTATED BIBLIGORAPHY (2005)

Primary Sources


This is a volume of photographs of daily life in Victorian and Edwardian England that I used in giving a visual representation of the poor living conditions of the East End.


This was one of my most helpful primary sources, and it helped me redirect my project’s focus. In it, Mr. Shaw, a socialist writer for the Fabian society, writes to the editor of The Star about how the Ripper has done more to help reform than the Democratic-Socialist Party has.


This is a short newspaper article declaring that the Metropolitan Police Commissioner of London has resigned after citizens had called for him to step down. I used this information to show the effects the Ripper had on London’s political scene.

Secondary Sources


This book offers a good, easy to understand description of Jack the Ripper, and provides a handful of historical pictures that I used as visual aids.


This site run by the British national archives contains vintage Victorian social reform posters that I use in my documentary to provide a visual aid concerning the Democratic-Socialist party and its reforms.


This documentary was the first source that I looked at, and influenced me greatly in picking my thesis. While it focuses on who committed the murders, it does dabble a little in the social aspects of the incidents.

Sweet, Matthew. Inventing the Victorians: What We Think We Know About Them, Why We’re Wrong. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2001

This is a book that focuses on common myths we have about the Victorian period, and enlightens us with the truth of these matters. From it, I used pictures of wealthy London society to illustrate the class rift in England.