

# MLA FORMATTING EXAMPLE

Brittany Smith

English 11

Ms. Wheaton

23 March 2015

## Brain Development and Learning Styles

Research has proven that students in today's classrooms have varying levels of understanding based on their learning style. A learning style can be defined as the pedagogical method that best fits a student's learning approach. With these styles outlined, teachers are able to differentiate their lessons and create materials that appeal to all different types of learning. Based on their strengths, weaknesses, and preferences, students generally fit into one or two categories—and can greatly benefit from instruction that meets their needs. A student's brain development determines whether their learning style can be categorized as kinesthetic, visual, verbal, auditory, or social.

### Kinesthetic Learners

Students who prefer a more hands-on, interactive approach to learning are considered kinesthetic learners. Formally, a kinesthetic learner can be defined as, "a learning style that requires a student to manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning" (Houghton). Furthermore, it is apparent to educators that this style of learner cannot learn as well by simply listening to a lecture or watching a demonstration; instead, the student prefers to be actively engaged and to learn by doing the task themselves. Typically, activities such as group work, drama presentation, recreational games, and project-based assessments will peak a kinesthetic learner's interest (Farwell). In a recent study conducted by Jarred Prince, it was discovered that on average, 30% of students are considered kinesthetic learners (Prince). Knowing this, teachers are able to develop a variety of interactive lesson plans that will allow kinesthetic learners to express their creativity by performing the task at hand. Ultimately, this style of learning is most successful when the

student and the teacher both understand that in order to sustain their attention; the activities must reach the student on a more tactile level.

## MLA FORMATTING GUIDELINES

MLA formatting includes:

- ✓ Times New Roman (size 12) font
- ✓ 1" margins
- ✓ A header with your name, your course name, your teacher's name, and the date (day, month, year).

COLOR coded map:

- ✓ The **red** represents the **thesis statement**. A thesis statement is a sentence, typically at the end of the introductory paragraph that encompasses all of the key components of your essay. It serves as a road map for the rest of your paper.
- ✓ The **purple** represents a **topic sentence**. At the beginning of each of your subtopics, you should have a topic sentences that states what the paragraph will be about indirectly. NOTICE: the sentence does not say "This paragraph will be about..."
- ✓ The **orange** represents an **in-text citation**. An in-text citation gives credit to the author of the information, protects you from plagiarizing, and ensures that you have evidence to support your claims.
- ✓ The **blue** represents a **transition statement**. Transition statements introduce your direct quotes. EXAMPLE: research shows, studies prove, it is evident that...

In order to receive full credit on your essay, you need to include all of these components. Not only will they create a properly formatted essay, but they will also create flow to your essay.

## In-text citations & works cited page

As you learned, in order to avoid plagiarism, you will need to use in-text citations that correlate with your Works Cited page.

**\*\*An MLA formatted in-text citation includes the AUTHOR'S LAST NAME (and page numbers if applicable) OR if there is not an author listed, the "Title of the Article".**

EXAMPLE of in-text citation:

Formally, a kinesthetic learner can be defined as, "a learning style that requires a student to manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning" (Houghton).

NOTICE: The period goes AFTER the in-text citation. This shows that the entire sentence is related to that particular source.

## PARAPHRASED STATEMENTS VS DIRECT QUOTES

- ✓ **A PARAPHRASED STATEMENT** is a sentence (or multiple sentences) that are put in your own words BASED ON scholarly information you obtained from a source. Although these statements are in your own words, they still require in-text citations that show where the information is from.
- ✓ **A DIRECT QUOTE** is information that is cited word-for-word from a source with "quotation marks" to indicate that the wording is from someone other than yourself.