

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

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Media Minute

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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7th Edition of MLA Released-April 09

In April 2009, the Modern Language Association released the 7th edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. General paper formatting (margins, headings, etc.) and in-text citations will remain the same, but all Works Cited style entries will be different from the 6th edition guidelines. Two significant differences are no underlining and inclusion or publication medium.

No Underlining

Instead of underlining titles, MLA now recommends that titles of books, periodicals, websites, films, etc now be italicized.

Example:

Johnson, Ted and Mark Donnelly. *The Vietnam War*. London: Greenwood, 1999. Print

Inclusion of Publication Medium.

Every entry receives a publication medium descriptor. Most entries will be "Print" or "Web" but others such as DVD, TV, Performance, etc. will be used when appropriate.



MLA is NEW!!!!

Example:

Smith, Sally. "Intravenous Drug Use" *Illegal Drugs: Americas Anguish*. 2004. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 4 Feb.2005. <<http://find.galegroup.com>> URLs.

URL's are to be included only on instructor request. We are recommending that students continue to include the URL for both free internet and online databases. Having the URL has been helpful to locate the original document to check for website reliability and plagiarism.



Did you know that you have access to 125 reference books through the VRHS library webpage? These **ebooks (Gale Virtual Reference Library)** should be books used when writing papers and citing sources. They are more educational than and have better information than "Google"

[Arts and Humanities Through the Eras](#)

[Biotechnology: Changing Life Through Science](#)

[Encyclopedia of World Biography](#)

[Career Information Center](#)

[Biotechnology: Changing Life Through Science](#)



Student Resource Gold offers over 1100 full text articles from magazines, newspapers, and all sorts of other types of journals. Sometimes there are even podcasts and audio clips. If you don't want to read the article yourself, the computer will read it to you with the click of a button! Some thing that can be accessed here are:

To Kill a Mockingbird

Euthanasia

Cloning

Great Gatsby

Check it out sometime...it might be helpful!

Blogging In the Classroom



The human brain is 80% water.

Why pay a dollar for a bookmark?

Why not use the dollar for a bookmark?

ROFWL
"Roll on the floor with laughter"



Blogging is an easy and fun way for teachers and students to interact with each other. Students and teachers often gain new insight, information and perspectives of others when using a blog.

Blogging is a great way for students to respond to new information or something they have read.

Blogging creates an authentic audience. It also balances efficiency with self-directed learning.

Blogs work well for time sensitive material and teachers can post exactly what it is they want their students to read.

They can be set up as groups or individuals. All posts have a date stamp so due dates are easy to keep track of!

Blogging provides an interactive community. It focuses on learning, sharing information and motivating students to become lifelong learners.

If you are a teacher...try a blog.

If you are a student...convince your teacher to try a blog for a homework assignment or two!

Here are the benefits:

- regularly updated content
- unique
- focused
- immediate
- interactive
- endless opportunities

SAT News

Thinking about college? Then, you are most likely going to take the SAT exam. About half of the questions in the reading comprehension focus on vocabulary and figuring out what words mean in context.

Although you cannot possibly learn the vocabulary over night, there are a few things you can do to build a strong vocabulary.

- study root words, especially those of Latin and Greek origin
- do crossword puzzles
- "read" the dictionary
- stop by the library to learn the "Word of the Day"
- READ the following books. They have been chosen for having stellar vocabulary:
 - A Heartbreaking Work of a Staggering Genius by Dave Eggers
 - Life of Pi by Yann Martel
 - Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi
 - White Teeth by Zadie Smith
 - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon



Did you know that Google has a glossary that can define words for you?

1. Go to www.google.com
2. Type "define" followed by a space and the word you are looking up.

Example: define copasetic

Example: define ROFWL

It is usually helpful to find an online dictionary that provides audio pronunciation of words.

Remember:

DO NOT copy and paste. That is plagiarism! Copyright laws still exist too. Copying and pasting is not fair use!

If you can find it on Google, so can we!