Citing from the Humanities Textbook
Fiero Textbook for Machiavelli Assignment

Parenthetical Citation Examples

Example 1

Fiero describes Machiavelli as “[a] keen political observer and a student of Roman history” (38).

- This example uses a blended sentence in which the quotation from the story is blended into the writer’s own sentence structure, with capitalization and punctuation reflecting that sentence structure created. The square brackets are used around “a” in the quoted passage to note a case change: the original source uses a capital letter “A,” but this sentence structure requires a lowercase “a.”

- This example includes the author’s name (Fiero) in the signal phrase. Therefore, the parenthetical citation for this source requires only the page number (38). The end period gets placed after the parenthetical citation.

Note: For the first reference to a source named in a signal phrase, use the source’s full name as given. Subsequent references to the same named source can shorten to the last name only in the signal phrase.

Example 2

Machiavelli is “[a] keen political observer and a student of Roman history” (Fiero 38).

- This example uses a blended sentence in which the quotation from the story is blended into the writer’s own sentence structure, with capitalization and punctuation reflecting that sentence structure created. The square brackets are used around “a” in the quoted passage to note a case change: the original source uses a capital letter “A,” but this sentence structure requires a lowercase “a.”

- This example does not include the author’s name in the signal phrase. Therefore, the parenthetical citation for this source requires the author’s last name (Fiero) and the page number (38).

- Notice that just a space is used (no additional punctuation) between the author’s last name and the page number. The end period gets placed after the parenthetical citation.
Work Cited Entry


**Author**
- The author is the person who wrote the words being quoted. In this case, even though the words quoted above speak about Machiavelli, Gloria K. Fiero is the person who wrote them.
- As with all MLA work cited entries, begin with the author’s last name, add a comma, then include the author’s first name.
- Separate the author’s name from the next part of the work cited entry with a period.

**Title of Source**
- The title of the source is the title of the work the quoted words come from. The words quoted above are found in the textbook *The Humanistic Tradition*.
- Because the source is a longer work, the title is italicized.
- A period appears at the end of the title.

**Container’s Version**
- Use an ordinal number to signify the edition.
- The word “edition” is abbreviated.
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Number**
- In this instance, the textbook is one of a collection of books. To indicate which one is being cited, the book number is added.
- The word “book” is abbreviated.
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Publisher**
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Publication Date**
- Conclude the citation with a period.