In-Text Citations in MLA Format

NOTE: If no location information (e.g. page number) is present, omit that part of the citation.

One Author:

- First mention using a signal phrase:
  - Peter T. Leeson writes in *The Invisible Hook*, “pirate life was orderly and honest” (45).

- Subsequent mentions using a signal phrase:
  - Leeson argues that, in pirate society, “it was critical to prevent inter-pirate conflict[s]” (53).

- Parenthetical Citation:
  - Pirates “had a strong incentive to secure social harmony” (Leeson 46).

Note: The first time you mention an author using a signal phrase, include their first name. After that, you should only refer to them by their last name. In parenthetical citations, always omit the first name.

Two Authors:

- First mention using a signal phrase:
  - Marina Krcmar and Drew Cingel found that “Rather than being separate from real world considerations, moral reasoning is present in video game play” (100).

- Subsequent mentions using a signal phrase:
  - Krcmar and Cingel “players use strategic and moral reasoning almost evenly during video game play” (99).

- Parenthetical Citation:
  - According to research, “more experienced game players use more moral reasoning during game play” (Krcmar and Cingel 99).

Note: Just like with one author, the first time you mention the author using a signal phrase, include first names. The first names are not necessary in any other scenario. In both signal phrases and parentheses, always connect the authors’ names by spelling out the word “and.”
Three or More Authors:

- First mention using a signal phrase:
  - In 2003, Robert Berkowitz et al. concluded, “Sibutramine…must be carefully monitored in adolescents, as in adults” (1811).

- Subsequent mentions using a signal phrase:
  - As Berkowitz et al. advised, “Weight loss medications should only be used experimentally in adolescents” (1811).

- Parenthetical Citation:
  - Outside of experimental situations, medication for weight loss should only be prescribed to adults (Berkowitz et al. 1811).

Note: When there are three or more authors, you do not need to list all of the authors’ names. Instead, list the first author’s name followed by “et al.” Continue following the pattern of including a first name the first time you use a signal phrase to introduce the group of authors.