

MLA Sample Paper: Text

Use an easy to read font like 12 pt. Times Roman.

Use 1" margins and double-space throughout.

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Your last name and page numbers should be right justified and typed in the header 1/2" from the top of the page.

Rosa Velasquez

Professor Nguyen

English 1A

2 June 2004

Personality and Birth Order: First-Borns and Later-Borns

Does birth order have any effect on personality? The naysayers including psychologists Monica A. Seff, Viktor Gecas, and James H. Frey

argue that "research on birth order effects has been remarkably inconsistent and inconclusive with regard to various personality and behavioral outcomes." MIT historian Frank Sulloway disagrees. In his book, *Born to Rebel*, he offers proof of the relationship between birth order and personality.

Researching the lives of historical figures, Sulloway observes that later-borns tend to champion liberal or unconventional ideas while first-borns

do not: "Later-borns were more likely than first-borns were to support each of the 61 liberal causes . . . surveyed, from the Protestant Reformation to the American civil-rights movement" (qtd. in Cowley). Rule-breaking later-

borns include Susan B. Anthony, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Charles Darwin. In contrast, first-borns defend the status quo (Sulloway 79). Naturalist Louis Agassiz fits this mold. The most influential naturalist of

To cite an electronic source that has no page numbers or paragraph numbers, simply give the author's name.

When mentioning an author in-text for the first time, include his or her full name. Thereafter, the author can be referred to by last name.

Use an ellipsis (. . .) when omitting original material.

When quoting, summarizing, or paraphrasing an author use the present tense.

For an indirect source in which one author is being quoted or paraphrased in another author's work, cite the indirect source.

In-text citations typically consist of the author's name and the page number.

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his day, first-born Agassiz staunchly opposed Darwin's radical notions about biological change:

A quotation of four lines or more starts on a new line and is indented 1" or 10 spaces.

In a block quotation, end punctuation comes before the in-text citation.

When Darwin proposed a revolutionary solution--that all nature's variety stems from a simple process that preserves useful variations and discards harmful ones--the authorities were appalled. "A scientific mistake" thundered Louis Agassiz, [...] "untrue in its facts . . . and mischievous in its tendency." (Cowley)

When omitting material from a quote that already contains an ellipsis, put brackets around your ellipsis.

Quoted material within a block quotation are enclosed with double quotation marks.

MLA Sample Paper: Works Cited

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Works Cited

Cowley, Geoffrey. "First Born, Later Born." Newsweek 7 Oct. 1996: 65+.

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Seff, Monica A., Viktor Gecas, and James H. Frey. "Birth Order, Self Concept, and Participation in Dangerous Sports." The Journal of Psychology 127.2 (1993): 221+. Expanded Academic ASAP. Info Trac. Chaffey Coll. Lib., Rancho Cucamonga, CA. 23 May 2004 <<http://infotrac.galegroup.com>>.

Sulloway, Frank J. Born to Rebel. New York: Pantheon, 1996.

Sources are listed in alphabetical order by author's last name. If there is no author, alphabetize by the first major word in the title.

The second line of each entry is indented 1/2" or 5 spaces.

The works cited list begins on a new page.

The entire reference list page is double-spaced and has 1" margins.

For electronic sources, break long URL's after a slash.