

Citation Spot Check

Check the order of quotes, citations, and periods.

10.L.GC.1.61 “Grammar, Usage, Mechanics: Use an appropriate style guide to address complex issues of grammar, usage, or mechanics. (Master)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

FOLLOWS THE RULE

For a direct quote when the author is not named in the sentence, place the parenthetical citation after the closing quotation mark. Place the final period after the citation.

The biography calls courage “a muscle that grows” (Lopez 73).

NEEDS REVISION

This citation has an error in its order or format. Check the placement of the period and the author-page information.

The catalog lists “stars above the desert.” (Ibrahim 4)

1 SORT

8 items

For each citation, circle CORRECT or REVISE, then choose two items and explain how the rule supports each choice.

1. The journal describes rain as “a patient drummer” (Hughes 14).

CORRECT

REVISE

2. The article calls sleep “the brain’s night shift” (Patel 9).

CORRECT

REVISE

3. The novel opens with “the road glittered after the storm.” (Reed 27)

CORRECT

REVISE

4. The review praises the “careful, layered sound” (Foster 6).

CORRECT

REVISE

5. “Every map leaves something out” (Kim p. 22).

CORRECT

REVISE

6. The poet writes, “Silence can be a kind of music.” (Allen 3)

CORRECT

REVISE

7. The study calls bees “small engineers of the field” (Ortiz 40).

CORRECT

REVISE

8. The article calls libraries “memory rooms” (Nguyen, 12).

CORRECT

REVISE

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new direct-quotation citation that is CORRECT and one that needs REVISE.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite one REVISE item from Part 1 so it follows the rule, then name the change you made.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The journal describes rain as “a patient drummer” (Hughes 14).	CORRECT	The citation follows the quotation mark, and the period follows the citation.
2	The article calls sleep “the brain’s night shift” (Patel 9).	CORRECT	The author and page number are correctly placed before the final period.
3	The novel opens with “the road glittered after the storm.” (Reed 27)	REVISE	The final period is placed before the citation instead of after it.
4	The review praises the “careful, layered sound” (Foster 6).	CORRECT	The quotation, citation, and final period are in the correct order.
5	“Every map leaves something out” (Kim p. 22).	REVISE	MLA parenthetical citations use the author name and page number without p.
6	The poet writes, “Silence can be a kind of music.” (Allen 3)	REVISE	The final period should come after the citation, not inside the quotation marks.
7	The study calls bees “small engineers of the field” (Ortiz 40).	CORRECT	The parenthetical citation and final period are correctly placed.
8	The article calls libraries “memory rooms” (Nguyen, 12).	REVISE	MLA does not use a comma between the author name and page number.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT:** The memoir calls winter “a quiet teacher” (Davis 51).
- **REVISE:** The scientist notes, “Clouds collect stories.” (Baker 16)

Challenge: Item 8: The article calls libraries “memory rooms” (Nguyen 12). I removed the comma between the author name and page number.

Accept explanations that correctly identify the order of the quotation mark, citation, and final period. Accept student-created examples that follow the stated MLA pattern or intentionally break one part of it.