Evidence Has Coordinates

Trace quotations and paraphrases to clear MLA-style citations.

12.R.1.F "Cite sources for quoted and paraphrased ideas using a standard method of documentation, such as the Modern Language Association (MLA) or the American Psychological Association (APA)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every set of quotation marks, circle every parenthetical citation, and draw a line from each quotation or source-based claim to its citation. Your marks should show how the writer documents borrowed language and borrowed ideas.

Yellowstone, Sources, and Stewardship

1. Yellowstone National Park became the United States' first national park in 1872. Its geysers, hot springs, and wildlife drew attention long before the park had roads or visitor centers. Congress later established the National Park Service to protect places like Yellowstone. The agency's founding law directs it "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" (National Park Service, "Organic Act"). That mandate links scenic beauty, cultural resources, and wildlife within one responsibility. Yellowstone's status therefore depends on both its remarkable landscape and federal stewardship.

2. Yellowstone's landscape is active, not frozen in time. The U.S. Geological Survey explains that the park sits above a volcanic system, and its scientists monitor earthquakes, ground movement, and gas emissions to understand changing conditions ("Yellowstone Volcano Observatory"). This research does not predict every event; instead, it helps scientists recognize patterns that could matter for public safety. Visitors can observe steam rising from vents, but they should stay on boardwalks. Thermal ground may look solid while holding scalding water or thin crusts below the surface (National Park Service, "Hydrothermal Features").

3. Protecting Yellowstone also requires decisions beyond the park boundary. In 2022, the park began a major effort to restore a native fish, Arctic grayling, to the upper Gibbon River drainage (National Park Service, "Arctic Grayling Restoration"). The project brought together partners and addressed habitat conditions that had limited the fish (National Park Service, "Arctic Grayling Restoration"). Such work shows that conservation is not limited to protecting dramatic features. It can also mean rebuilding a population after local loss, then watching whether it survives in a changing ecosystem.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What exact words does the writer quote from the National Park Service's founding law? Write the parenthetical citation that follows the quotation.

2. Copy the first source-based claim in paragraph 2 that is written in the writer's own words. Then explain why it is a paraphrase rather than a direct quotation.

3. Why does the Arctic grayling information in paragraph 3 need citations even though it is not enclosed in quotation marks?

4. You write this sentence: “The U.S. Geological Survey monitors Yellowstone earthquakes, ground movement, and gas emissions.” Which MLA-style parenthetical citation from the passage belongs after it? Write it exactly.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use this source card: The United States Environmental Protection Agency's “What Is a Wetland?” states that wetlands are places where “water covers the soil” during at least part of the year. The page also explains that wetlands can improve water quality by filtering pollutants. Write exactly two sentences about wetlands: one sentence must use the quoted words, and one must paraphrase the filtering idea. Cite both sentences in MLA style.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 12 · 12.R.1.F

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every set of quotation marks, circle every parenthetical citation, and draw a line from each quotation or source-based claim to its citation. Your marks should show how the writer documents borrowed language and borrowed ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What exact words does the writer quote from the National Park Service's founding law? Write the parenthetical citation that follows the quotation.	**"to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" (National Park Service, "Organic Act").**
2	Copy the first source-based claim in paragraph 2 that is written in the writer's own words. Then explain why it is a paraphrase rather than a direct quotation.	**"The U.S. Geological Survey explains that the park sits above a volcanic system, and its scientists monitor earthquakes, ground movement, and gas emissions to understand changing conditions." It reports information from the source in the writer's own wording and has no quotation marks.**
3	Why does the Arctic grayling information in paragraph 3 need citations even though it is not enclosed in quotation marks?	**The claims about the 2022 restoration effort, its partners, and habitat conditions come from the National Park Service. Changing the wording does not make researched information the writer's original idea.**
4	You write this sentence: "The U.S. Geological Survey monitors Yellowstone earthquakes, ground movement, and gas emissions." Which MLA-style parenthetical citation from the passage belongs after it? Write it exactly.	**("Yellowstone Volcano Observatory")**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Environmental Protection Agency explains that "water covers the soil" in wetlands during at least part of the year (United States Environmental Protection Agency, "What Is a Wetland?"). Wetlands can improve water quality because they filter some pollutants from water moving through them (United States Environmental Protection Agency, "What Is a Wetland?").

Accept equivalent explanations that distinguish exact borrowed wording from paraphrased source ideas. For the open task, accept any accurate two-sentence response with one direct quotation, one paraphrase, quotation marks around borrowed language, and an appropriate MLA-style citation for each sentence.