4 things you need to know about in-text citations

1. MLA is an author-page style
   *Why?* Because literature scholars deal primarily with words, literary and textual analysis, they need to go directly to the page of your source.

   **Examples** According to Jonnie, the reaction time was insufficient (119). The reaction time was insufficient (Jonnie 119).

If there is no author, use the first two or three words of the title:

- For short works eg articles, websites, edited book chapters: Use quotations marks around the title
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  **Example** Human beings are symbol using beings (“Language as Symbols” 6).
  ```
- For books: Italicize the title.
  ```
  **Example** Human beings are symbol using beings (Symbols of Language 6).
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2. The information in your in-text citation must match the first thing in your references
   **In-text:** According to Jonnie, the reaction time was insufficient (6).
   **Corresponding book reference:**

   **In-text:** Human beings are symbol–using beings (“Language as Symbols” A8).
   **Corresponding article reference (no author):**

3. Periods: Your parenthetical citation is **before** the period that marks the end of your sentence.
   **Examples**
   The behavioral model has been criticized for a lack of attention to service utilization (Andersen 15).

   Work is a “major role in a person's past, an intrinsic part of their present and a potential mould for their future” (Cooper 87).

   **NOT**
   The behavioral model has been criticized for a lack of attention to service utilization. (Andersen 15).

   **NOT**
   Work is a “major role in a person's past, an intrinsic part of their present and a potential mould for their future.” (Cooper 87).

For block quotations (4 lines or more), your parenthetical citation is **after** the period. Block quotations do not need quotation marks.

**Example**
Eklund’s review of
Previous studies indicated that job satisfaction is lower among occupational therapists in mental health care than in other clinical areas. Working with seriously mentally ill patients might in itself be a burden heavy enough to generate low satisfaction with work. (168)
4. Four ways to doing your in-text citations

1. **(Author Page) at the end of your sentence.**
   The behavioral model has been criticized for a lack of attention to service utilization (Andersen 15).

2. **Author is part of your sentence.**
   Andersen criticized the behavioral model for its lack of attention to service utilization (15).

3. **As web pages do not have page numbers, omit any numbers in your in-text citation.**
   Feldman noted that “the ‘national shame’ is that so many people are in prisons or jails”.

   It is a “‘national shame’ that so many people are in prisons or jails” (Feldman).

4. **Using indirect sources**
   If you cite Barcadi’s research from your textbook written by Rumm, Rumm (not Barcadi) will be in your reference list:
   Barcadi argued that … (qtd in Rumm 2010).

**Additional tips:**

- **Works by 1 - 3 authors:**
  According to Jonnie and Walker, the reaction time was insufficient (8).
  Reaction time is crucial (Jonnie & Walker 8).

- **Works by 4 or more authors:**
  Jonnie et al. found that reaction time is crucial (8).