

# Core Element 1: Author

## Definition:

"the person or group [corporate author] primarily responsible for producing the work or the aspect of the work that you focused on" (*MLA Handbook* 22).

May, with addition of a descriptive label, refer to the editor of a collective work, a translator, the performer in or director of a play or film, etc. (23-24).

## Treatment:

Take the name(s) directly from the title page of a book or journal article, credits screen or packaging of a DVD, "About Us" page of a Web site, etc. List the authors in the order in which they appear in the source. Follow the author(s) with a period. (21-25)

Cases	Examples
Book or article by a <b>single author</b> ( <i>MLA Handbook</i> 21)	Baron, Naomi S. "Redefining Reading: The Impact of Digital Communication Media." <i>PMLA</i> , vol. 128, no. 1, Jan. 2013, pp. 193-200. Wyss, O'Neill. <i>Fundamentals of the Stock Market</i> . McGraw-Hill, 2001.
Book or article by <b>two authors</b> ( <i>MLA Handbook</i> 21)	Barcott, Bruce, and Michael Scherer. "The Great Pot Experiment." <i>Time</i> , 25 May 2015, pp. 38-45. Hamilton, John Maxwell, Jr., and George A. Krinsky. <i>Hold the Press: The Inside Story on Newspapers</i> . Louisiana State UP, 1996.
Book or article by <b>more than two authors</b> ( <i>MLA Handbook</i> 22)	Quirk, Randolph, et al. <i>A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language</i> . Longman, 1985. Zaytsev, Andrey, et al. "The Depth Effect of Earthquakes on Tsunami Heights in the Sea of Okhotsk." <i>Turkish Journal of Earth Sciences</i> , vol. 25, no. 4, 2016, pp. 289-99.
Book by a <b>corporate author</b> ( <i>MLA Handbook</i> 25)	American Medical Association. <i>Essential Guide to Asthma</i> . Pocket Books, 1998. United States, Department of Labor. <i>Child Care: A Workforce Issue</i> . Government Printing Office, 1988.



DARE TO DO MORE



<p>Book with <b>corporate author same as publisher</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 25)</p>	<p><i>Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America</i>. National Endowment for the Arts, June 2004.</p> <p>"Tips for Traveling Abroad." <i>Travel.state.gov</i>, United States, Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, 2007, <a href="http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en.html">travel.state.gov/content/travel/en.html</a>.</p> <p>[List the corporate author only as publisher.]</p>
<p>Book by <b>editor(s) or compiler(s)</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 23)</p>	<p>Allison, Nancy, editor. <i>The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Body-Mind Disciplines</i>. Rosen, 1999.</p> <p>Spafford, Peter R., and Millicent Monroe, compilers. <i>The Protocol of Heaven</i>. Ballantine, 2002.</p>
<p>Book with <b>an author and an editor</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 23)</p>	<p>Shakespeare, William. <i>Hamlet</i>. Edited by Harold Jenkins, Methuen, 1982.</p>
<p>Book, film or TV program with <b>focus on contribution of specific person</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 24)</p>	<p>Gellar, Sarah Michelle, performer. <i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i>. Mutant Enemy, 1997-2003.</p> <p>Pevear, Richard, and Larissa Volokhonsky, translators. <i>Crime and Punishment</i>. By Feodor Dostoevsky, Vintage eBooks, 1993.</p> <p>Whedon, Joss, creator. <i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i>. Mutant Enemy, 1997-2003.</p>
<p>Film or TV program <b>without focus on contribution of specific person</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 24)</p>	<p><i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i>. Created by Joss Whedon, performance by Sarah Michelle Gellar. Mutant Enemy, 1997-2003.</p>
<p>Book, article, or online message with <b>pseudonym or username</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 24)</p>	<p>@persiankiwi. "We have report of large street battles in east &amp; west of Tehran now - #Iranelection." Twitter, 23 June 2009, 11:15 a.m., <a href="https://twitter.com/persiankiwi/status/2298106072">twitter.com/persiankiwi/status/2298106072</a>.</p> <p>Stendhal. <i>The Red and the Black</i>. Translated by Roger Gard, Penguin Books, 2002.</p>
<p>Book, article, or Web site with <b>no author or corporate author that is same as publisher</b> (<i>MLA Handbook</i> 25)</p>	<p><i>Collins Quotation Finder</i>. Rev. ed., HarperCollins, 2001.</p> <p>"The Devil Wears Trademark: How the Fashion Industry Has Expanded Trademark Doctrine to Its Detriment." <i>Harvard Law Review</i>, vol. 127, no. 3, Jan. 2014, pp. 995-1016.</p> <p><i>MLA Style Center</i>. Modern Language Association of America, 2016, <a href="http://style.mla.org">style.mla.org</a></p>



**DARE TO DO MORE**



**Two or more works by the same author** (MLA Handbook 113)

Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club*. Putnam's, 1989.  
---. *The Kitchen God's Wife*. Putnam's, 1991.

Don't see an example you are looking for? Check out [OWL: Purdue University's Online Writing Lab](#)



LaGuardia  
Community College

**DARE TO DO MORE**

**CU  
NY**