

# Citing Generative AI All Styles

Updated 10/21/2025

Quick Links to Styles:

[MLA 9th](#)

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## MLA 9th

Notes:

- Do not treat the AI tool as an author
- Acknowledge all functional uses of the tool (like editing your prose or translating words)

**Citing AI text:**

**Format:**

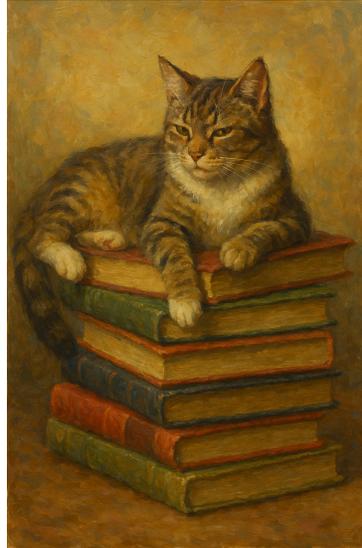
“Description of what was generated” prompt. AI tool, Day Month version, Company/Developer, Day Month Year, URL.

**Example:**

“How does symbolism contribute to the theme of *The Handmaid’s Tale*?” prompt. ChatGPT, 13 Feb. version, OpenAI, 3 Mar. 2023, chat.openai.com/chat.

In text: (“How does symbolism”)

**Citing AI-Generated Images:**



**Format (figure caption):**

Fig. X. “Description of what was generated” prompt, *AI tool, version, Company/Developer, Day Month Year*, [https://chatgpt.com/s/m\\_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e](https://chatgpt.com/s/m_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e).

**Format (works-cited list):**

“Description of what was generated” prompt. *AI tool, version, Company/Developer, Day Month Year, URL*.

**Example (caption):**

Fig. 1. “A calico cat laying on a pile of books” prompt, *ChatGPT, DALL-E 3 image model, OpenAI, 21 Oct. 2025*, [https://chatgpt.com/s/m\\_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e](https://chatgpt.com/s/m_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e).

**Example (works-cited entry):**

“A calico cat laying on a pile of books” prompt. *ChatGPT, DALL-E 3 image model, OpenAI, 21 Oct. 2025*, [https://chatgpt.com/s/m\\_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e](https://chatgpt.com/s/m_68f7ca927c508191a3538451fc09b60e).

# APA 7th

## Notes

- Mention any use of AI tools (such as ChatGPT) in your **methods section** or a similar part of your paper, describing how the tool contributed (for example, to draft, edit, or analyze text).
- If the AI chat is **shareable via public URL**, it can be cited like any other retrievable source.
- If no shareable link exists, cite the **tool itself** instead of the individual chat.
- You may include the **prompt** briefly in your text if it clarifies how the response was generated.
- Full chat transcripts may be added in an **appendix** when readers need to see the complete exchange.

## Citing a Specific Chat (With a Share Link)

### Format:

AI Company Name. (Year, Month Day). *Title of chat in italics* [Description, such as generative AI chat]. Tool Name/Model. URL of chat

### Example:

OpenAI. (2025, October 21). *Discussion about symbolism in The Great Gatsby* [generative AI chat]. ChatGPT (GPT-5). <https://chat.openai.com/share/xxxxxx>

**In-text citation:** (OpenAI, 2025) or OpenAI (2025)

## If You Used AI to Help Write or Analyze Text

When AI is part of your process, provide a short description in your **methods section or equivalent** (for transparency).

You can briefly mention the **prompt** in your text if it clarifies how the response was generated.

If you want readers to see the full conversation, include it in an **appendix** and refer to it in-text (e.g., “see Appendix A for the full chat”).

## Citing the AI Tool (No Share Link)

### Format:

AI Company Name. (Year). *Tool Name* (Model version, if known) [Type of AI model].  
URL of tool

### Example:

OpenAI. (2023). *ChatGPT* (Mar 28 version) [large language model].  
<https://chat.openai.com>

### In-text example:

When prompted with “Is the left-brain/right-brain divide real or a metaphor?” the ChatGPT-generated text indicated that although the two hemispheres are somewhat specialized, “the notion that people can be characterized as ‘left-brained’ or ‘right-brained’ is considered an oversimplification and a popular myth” (OpenAI, 2023).

If you include the full chat transcript in an appendix:

(OpenAI, 2023; see Appendix A for the full conversation)

## Citing AI-Generated Images

### Format:

Developer Name. (Year). *Name of AI tool* (Version number) [Generative AI model].  
URL of tool

**Example:**

OpenAI. (2025). (*DALL·E 3 image model*) [Generative AI model].  
<https://chat.openai.com>

**In-text / Figure Note example:**

**Figure 3**

Example of an AI-generated image



*Note.* Image generated using the prompt “A calico cat laying on a pile of books,” by OpenAI, DALL-E, 2023  
([https://chatgpt.com/s/m\\_68f7b4b73040819196f0db4f60a1d963](https://chatgpt.com/s/m_68f7b4b73040819196f0db4f60a1d963)).

Chicago (Notes-Bib), 18th

**Notes:**

- **Mentioning AI Use**

If you used a generative AI tool such as ChatGPT to assist in drafting or revising text, acknowledge that use in a note, preface, or the main text.

**Example:**

“This explanation was drafted with the assistance of ChatGPT-4 (OpenAI) and edited for clarity.”

**Note (No Public Link)**

Text generated by ChatGPT-4, OpenAI, March 28, 2025. Prompt: “*Explain how to write like Dostoyevsky.*”

**Note (With Public Link)**

ChatGPT-4, OpenAI, March 28, 2025, <https://chat.openai.com/share/example-url>.

**Bibliography (If Publicly Accessible)**

ChatGPT-4, OpenAI, March 28, 2025, <https://chat.openai.com/share/example-url>.

**Style Tips**

- Cite AI content like personal communication—usually in a note, not the bibliography.
- Include the prompt and model/version if possible.
- Add a URL only if it is publicly accessible and stable.
- Indicate if the content was edited, summarized, or truncated.

**Chicago (Author-Date), 18th****Notes:**

- Authors who rely on content generated by a chatbot or similar AI tool must clearly indicate how the tool was used—either in the body of the text, in a note, or in a preface. Any quoted or paraphrased material from an AI tool should be cited at the point of use. Like personal communication (CMOS 14.111) and social media posts (14.106), AI conversations are usually not included in a bibliography unless a publicly accessible version is available.

**Cited in text (narrative example):**

The following analysis of narrative voice in *Crime and Punishment* was generated on March 28, 2025, by ChatGPT-4 (OpenAI).

**Cited in a note:**

Text generated by ChatGPT-4, OpenAI, March 28, 2025,  
<https://chat.openai.com/share/example-url>.

**With prompt (edited for clarity):**

*Response to “Explain how to write like Dostoyevsky,”* ChatGPT-4, OpenAI, March 28, 2025, edited for length and clarity.

**Bibliography (only if publicly accessible)**

OpenAI. *Response to “Explain how to write like Dostoyevsky.”* ChatGPT-4. March 28, 2025.  
<https://chat.openai.com/share/example-url>.

Turabian (Notes-Bib), 9th

Notes:

- Do **NOT** include the source in your bibliography unless you provide a publicly available link to the conversation (this is achievable through additional web applications like A.I. Archives). Otherwise, keep this information in the notes only and treat it as a communication.

**Citing AI generated content:**

Notes Format:

1. Name of AI tool, description of prompt, Date of tool use, name of developer, url for tool.

Example:

1. ChatGPT, response to "Summarize the life of Charles Darwin," OpenAI, April 24, 2024, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>.

In subsequent notes from the same generated text, just list the AI tool as the author.

Example:

2. ChatGPT.

If you've edited the text in any way, mention this in the footnote:

1. ChatGPT, response to "Summarize the life of Charles Darwin," OpenAI, April 24, 2024, <https://chat.openai.com/chat>. Edited for style and content.

## Turabian (Author-Date), 9th

Notes:

- Any information not in the text would be placed in a parenthetical text reference.
- Do **NOT** include the source in your bibliography unless you provide a publicly available link to the conversation (this is achievable through additional web applications like A.I. Archives). Otherwise, keep this information in the notes only and treat it as a communication.

Parenthetical text reference:

(ChatGPT, July 1, 2024)

## ASA and GSA

Notes:

- Couldn't confirm anything - updated Jul 15, 2024 .
- Regard as *personal communication* (cite in text only, not in the reference list).