

CITING RESEARCH DATABASES MLA STYLE

Gale Virtual Reference Library

The guidelines in this handout are based on the *MLA Handbook* (8th ed.). Follow them when citing an encyclopedia article from Gale Virtual Reference Library.

DOIs, URLs, & Accession Numbers

1. Because encyclopedia articles in Gale Virtual Reference Library have not been assigned a DOI (**Digital Object Identifier**), your citation should include either the (1) **URL** or (2) **Gale Document Number**, depending on your instructor's preferences.
2. To view the URL or Gale Document Number, scroll to the end of the article until you see **Source Citation**.
 - a. Do not include the **protocol** (http:) or **double forward slash** (//) in your citation.
 - b. If the URL takes up more than one line, do not insert spaces or hyphens to force a break. Use your computer's **Enter/Return** key instead.

Encyclopedia article from Gale Virtual Reference Library

To cite an encyclopedia article, scroll down the screen until you see the **Source Citation**. Please note that the citations in Gale Virtual Reference Library aren't always completely accurate and you may need to correct a few mistakes.

For example, in the source citation below, you should omit the initial **http://** from the URL. The **access date** is optional.

Screenshot of Source Citation:

Source Citation (MLA 8th Edition)

Smart, Ninian. "Reincarnation." *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Donald M. Borchert, 2nd ed., vol. 8, Macmillan Reference USA, 2006, pp. 331-333. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/CX3446801725/GVRL?u=omah20254&sid=GVRL&xid=cfd73208>. Accessed 13 Aug. 2018.

Gale Document Number: GALE|CX3446801725

If your instructor prefers that you use the **Gale Document Number** instead of the URL, your citation would look like this:

Smart, Ninlan. "Reincarnation." *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Donald M. Borchert, 2nd ed., vol. 8, Macmillan Reference USA, 2006, pp. 331-333. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, Gale document no. GALE|CX3446801725.