

## MLA Cheat Sheet

### Punctuating Titles: When to use *italics*, underlining, and "quotation marks"

Remember these two handy rules to keep the differences between title punctuations straight:

1. Short works and parts of long works are usually in "quotation marks"
2. Long works and collections of short works (such as anthologies) are put in *italics* on the computer, or underlined when hand-written

<b>"Short Works" &amp; "Sections of Longer Works"</b>	<b><i>Long Works &amp; Collection of Short Works</i></b>
1) "Title of a Short Poem." Ex: "The Raven."	<b><i>Title of an Epic Poem or Book-Length Poem</i></b> Ex: <i>The Odyssey</i>
2) "Title of a Short Story." Ex: "Young Goodman Brown"	<b><i>Title of a Novel</i></b> Ex: <i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
3) "Title of an Essay" Ex: "The Fiction of Langston Hughes"	<b><i>Title of a Collection or Anthology of Essays</i></b> Ex: <i>Modern Writers and Their Readers</i>
4) "Title of a Short Song" "Money Talks"	<b><i>Title of a CD, Cassette, or Album</i></b> Ex: <i>The Razor's Edge</i> , by AC/DC. Also: <b><i>Title of a Ballet or Opera</i></b> Ex: <i>The Nutcracker Suite</i> or <i>Die Fledermaus</i> Also: <b><i>Title of Long Classical or Instrumental Compositions Identified by Name, Rather than Number.</i></b> Ex: Wagner's <i>The Flight of the Valkyries</i>
5) "Title of a Skit or Monologue" Ex: "Madman's Lament"	<b><i>Title of a Play</i></b> Ex: <i>The Importance of Being Ernest</i>
6) "Short Commercial" "Obey Your Thirst."	<b><i>Title of a Film</i></b> Ex: <i>Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones</i>
7) Title of "Individual Episode" in a Television Series. "Sawyer's Past"	<b><i>Title of a Television Series as a Whole</i></b> Ex: <i>The Lost</i> Ex: <i>Everybody Loves Raymond</i>
8) "Title of a Chapter in a Book" Ex: "Welsh Mountains"	<b><i>Title of a Complete Book</i></b> Ex: <i>A Guide to Welsh Geography</i>
9) "Encyclopedia Article" Ex: "Etruscan"	<b><i>Title of Encyclopedia</i></b> Ex: <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i>
10) "Title of an Article in a Magazine" Ex: "Training Your Toddler"	<b><i>Title of the Magazine.</i></b> Ex: <i>Parenting</i>
11) "Title of an Article in a Newspaper" Ex: "Man Kills Seven in Subway"	<b><i>Title of the Newspaper</i></b> Ex: <i>The New York Times</i>
12) "One or Two Page Handout" Ex: "Old English Verbs: A One Page Guide"	<b><i>Pamphlet</i></b> Ex: <i>The Coming Kingdom of God and the Millennium.</i>