

EXPLORING AMERICA



CORE RESEARCH PROJECT

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OBJECTIVES: Each student will:

1. Study one explorer of the Americas and his/her most significant contributions to the understanding and development of the Americas
2. Learn about other explorers and their impact from classmates;
3. Review the use of almanacs, encyclopedias, and atlases;
4. Practice research skills including:
 - Locating and accessing information from print and electronic sources
 - Note taking
 - Utilizing multimedia technology;
 - Preparing a bibliography
5. Prepare an original 5-7 page explorer's diary—from the perspective of a fictional member of the exploration team, but only covering 2-3 vivid days of the journey.
6. Gain confidence in speaking before a group.



EVALUATION:

There are many facets to this research project. First, you are required to brainstorm a list of possible explorers. You will choose a topic from your list and research that topic. You will utilize various sources of information in researching the topic. You will create bibliography cards for your sources of information and note cards for each fact you will use in your paper. You will create a title page, bibliography page, and a 5-7 page diary of your own work. The diary needs to vividly and accurately describe several days of the exploration rather than a vague listing of its entirety. Afterwards, you will be required to give a presentation to the class incorporating visual aids. You will be required to include information about your topic which is presented in a well-organized manner.

There are many small steps along the way. The timeline is designed to avoid last-minute panics by keeping track of daily and weekly progress before it becomes too late. The paper for this class must be solely for this class. Any plagiarism will result in an automatic zero for the paper. Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas in whole or part while claiming them as your own. You must either rewrite the information in your own words or quote the information. If you need any help, ask before it becomes too late.

Each person will be required to prepare:

1. Notecards (**minimum** of 50)
2. Bibliography cards (**minimum** of 5)
3. Bibliography citing a **minimum** of 5 sources, of 3 different types
4. Title page
5. Diary (5-7 pages, double spaced with maximum, 12 point Times New Roman font, .5 inch margins)
6. Presentation (3-5 minutes, with at least 2 visual aids)



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Research Guide

You will need to use a variety of sources for this project. Remember: a minimum of 5 sources, of 3 different types, must be included in your bibliography. To do a thorough job of researching, you should look in the following places:



REFERENCE SOURCES

- ✓ general encyclopedias, like New Book of Knowledge or World Book with its "Facts in Brief" section.
- ✓ Almanacs, atlases, dictionaries, etc

***Reference materials cannot be checked out. They must be used in the library.

BOOKS

- ✓ Biographies, autobiographies, history textbooks, or any other work of nonfiction
- ✓ Use the index of a book to locate the specific information you need.



MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS

- ✓ General news magazines, historical periodicals, etc

ELECTRONIC SOURCES & ONLINE

You can access information on your specific explorer by doing a keyword search using a variety of CD-ROM products and search engines on the internet. Be wary...not all online resources are reliable. Keep in mind the "Binder the Bald" and his necklace of big toes travesty.



NOTE TAKING

As you read your sources, take notes on the information that you feel is significant to your topic, audience, and purpose. Follow these guidelines:



1. Use index cards. Put only one idea on each card.
2. Record the page number of the source of information on each card.
3. Record the number of the bibliography card that identifies the source of your information.
4. Record facts, not opinions. Facts are statements that can be proved true. Opinions are personal views. They cannot be proved true or false.

When writing note cards, you may reword information from your source or quote the source directly. When rewording, rewrite the information from the source in your own words. When quoting, copy the information onto the note card and place quotation marks around it. Make sure that the quotation is copied word for word. Most of the ideas in a report should be reworded information. Use a quotation only when the author of your source has said something particularly well.

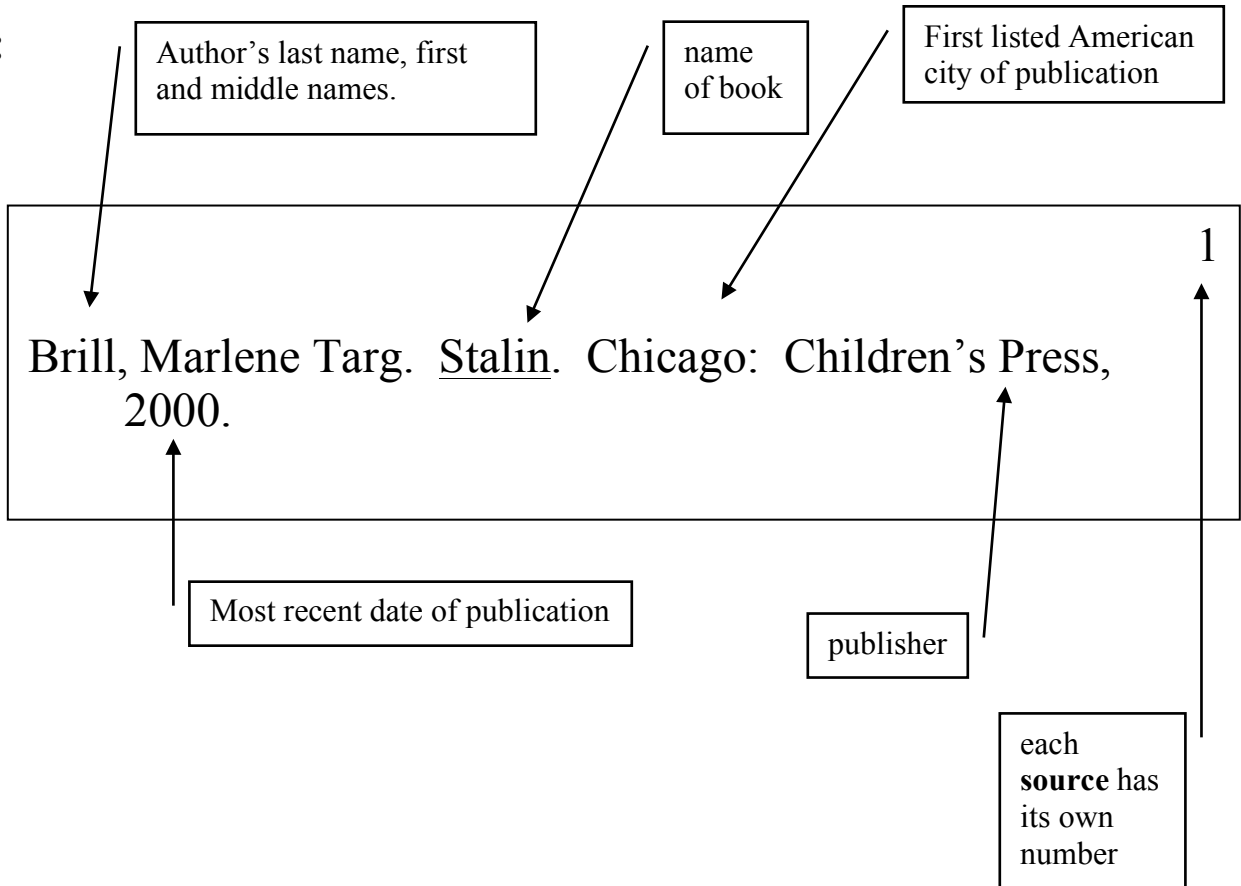
SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHY CARDS AND NOTECARD

SAMPLE NOTECARD:

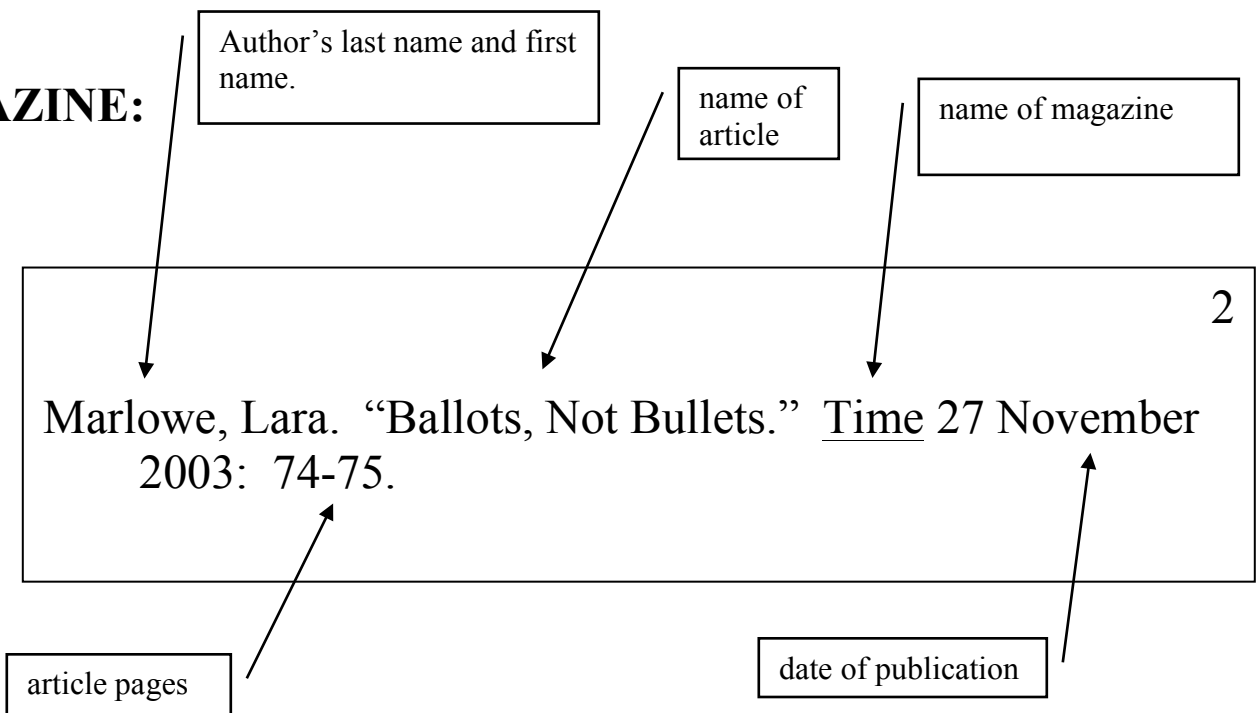
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one note per card	Born February 10, 1898, in Tbilisi, Georgia.
page number	p. 117

SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPY CARDS:

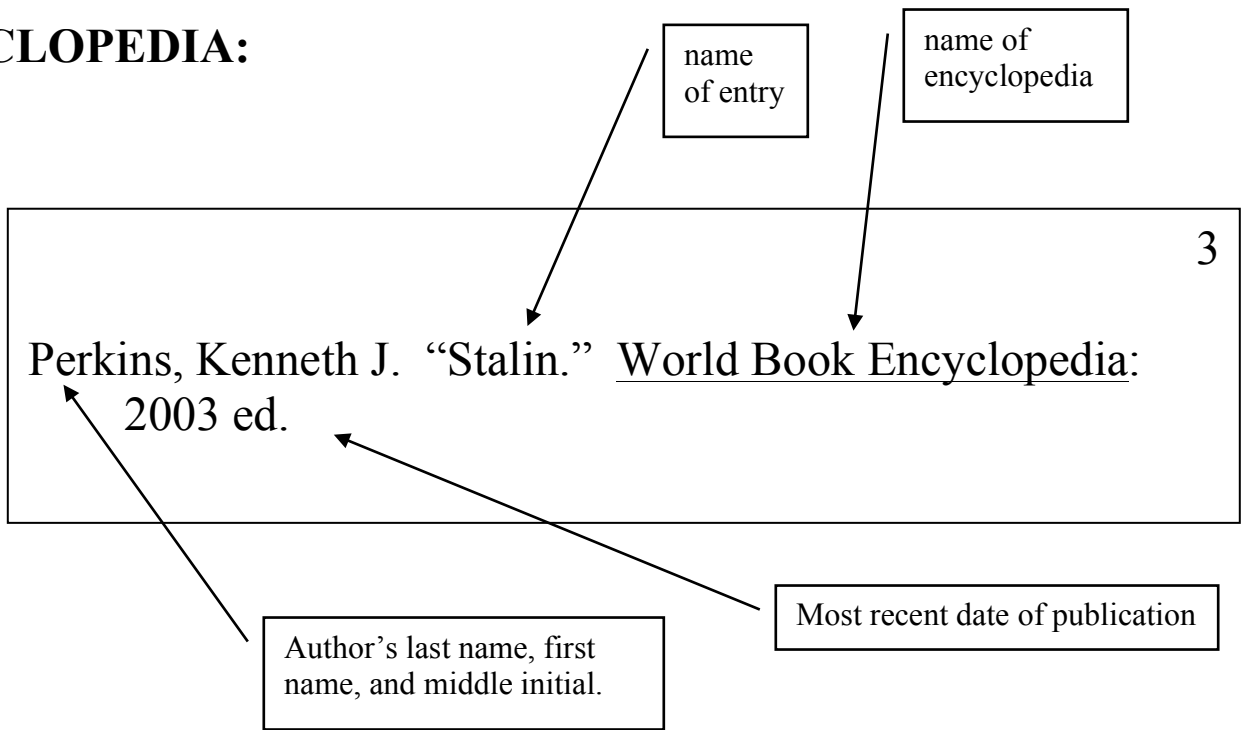
BOOK:



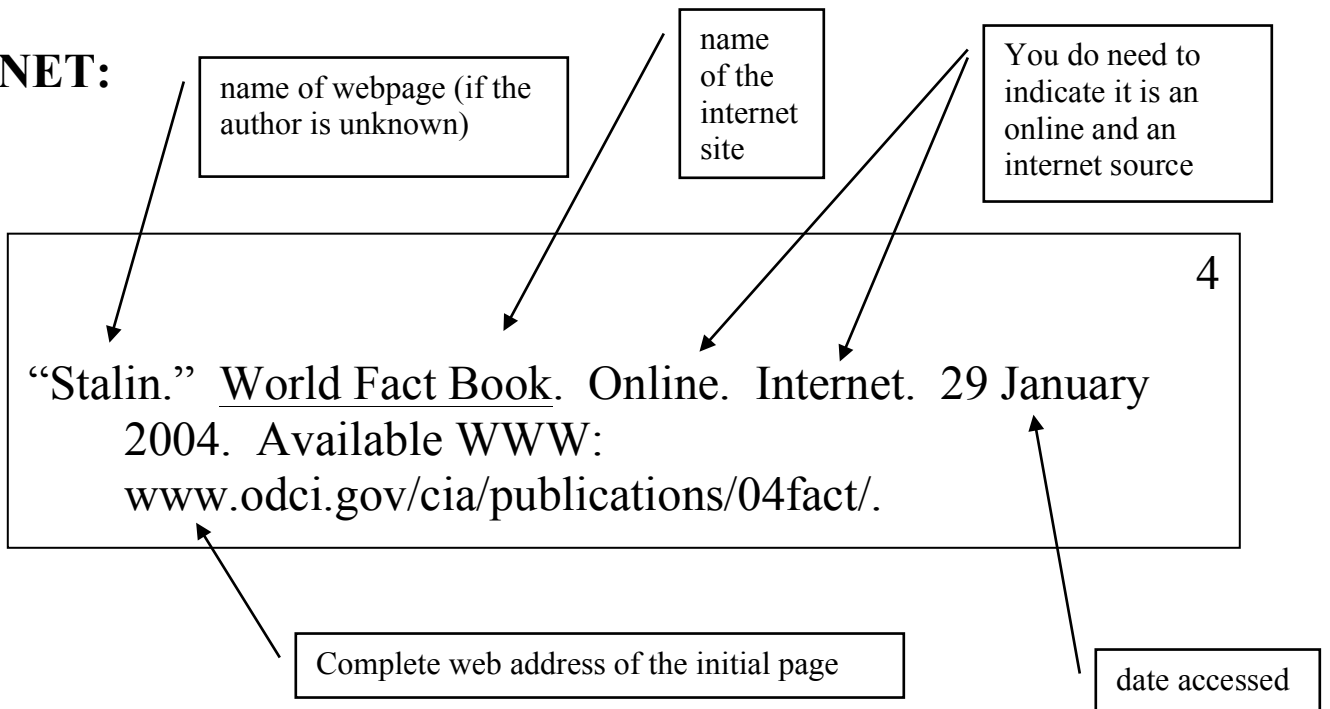
MAGAZINE:



ENCYCLOPEDIA:



INTERNET:



BIBLIOGRAPHY STYLE SHEET

BOOK WITH ONE AUTHOR

Brill, Marlene Targ. Algeria. Chicago: Children's Press, 1990.

BOOK WITH TWO AUTHORS

Robins, Eric and Blaine Littell. Africa: Images and Realities. New York: Praeger Co., 1972.

BOOK WITH A CORPORATE AUTHOR

American Heritage The Horizon History of Africa. New York: American Heritage, 1971.

BOOK WITH AN EDITOR

Murray, Jocelyn, ed. Cultural Atlas of Africa. New York: Facts on File, 1981.

ENTRY IN REFERENCE BOOK--AUTHOR KNOWN

Perkins, Kenneth J. "Algeria." World Book Encyclopedia. 1993 ed.

ENTRY IN REFERENCE BOOK--AUTHOR UNKNOWN

"Algeria." Countries of the World & Their Leaders Yearbook 1992. 1992 ed.

ALMANAC ENTRY

"Algeria." World Almanac and Book of Facts. 1996 ed.

DICTIONARY ENTRY

"Dinar." Random House Dictionary of the English Language. 2nd ed. unabridged, 1987.

MAGAZINE ARTICLE--AUTHOR KNOWN

Marlowe, Lara. "Ballots, Not Bullets." Time 27 Nov. 1995: 74-75.

MAGAZINE ARTICLE.-AUTHOR UNKNOWN

"Other World News: Algeria." Facts on File. 31 Aug. 1995: 640.

INTERVIEWS

Belkadi, Mouloud. Personal interview. 3 March 1996.

PAMPHLET

"Algeria." Culturgram '94. Brigham Young University, 1993.

CD-ROM—AUTHOR KNOWN

Spencer, William. "Algeria." Encarta '95. CD-ROM. 1995 ed.

CD-ROM—AUTHOR UNKNOWN

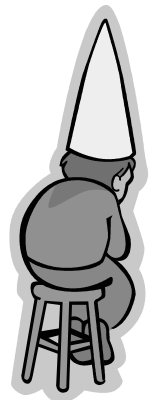
"Algeria." Microsoft Bookshelf. CD-ROM. 1994 ed.

INFORMATION ACCESSED THROUGH A COMPUTER SERVICE

"Algeria." Compton's Encyclopedia. Online. America Online. 25 Feb. 1996.

INFORMATION ACCESSED THROUGH THE INTERNET

"Algeria." World Fact Book. Online. Internet. 29 Jan. 1995. Available WWW:
www.odci.gov/cia/publications/95fact/.



GENERAL TIPS

- ❖ If you use a source not listed here, ask a librarian for assistance.
- ❖ If you cannot find a date, use the abbreviation **n.d.** (no date).
- ❖ If you cannot find a page, use the abbreviation **n.p.** (no page).
- ❖ Entries are in **alphabetical** order.
- ❖ The first line of each entry begins at the left margin. The second line (if needed) is indented five spaces.
- ❖ Single-space **within** an entry. Double space **between** entries.
- ❖ Do **not** number the entries.

The following is an example of what a completed bibliography should look like:

Bibliography

- "Algeria." Compton's Encyclopedia. Online. America Online. 25 Feb. 1996.
- "Algeria." Countries of the World & Their Leaders Yearbook 1992. 1992 ed.
- "Algeria." Culturgram '94. Brigham Young University, 1993.
- "Algeria." Microsoft Bookshelf. CD-ROM. 1994 ed.
- "Algeria." World Almanac and Book of Facts. 1996 ed.
- "Algeria." World Fact Book. Online. Internet. 29 Jan. 1995. Available WWW:
www.odd.gov/cia/publications/95fact/.
- American Heritage Publishing Company. The Horizon History of Africa. New York: American Heritage, 1971.
- Belkadi, Mouloud. Personal interview. 3 March 1996.
- Brill, Marlene Targ. Algeria. Chicago: Children's Press, 1990.
- "Dinar." Random House Dictionary of the English Language. 2nd ed. unabridged, 1987.
- Marlowe, Lara. "Ballots, Not Bullets." Time 27 Nov. 1995: 74-75.
- Murray, Jocelyn, ed. Cultural Atlas of Africa. New York: Facts on File, 1981.
- "Other World News: Algeria." Facts on File. 31 Aug. 1995: 640.
- Perkins, Kenneth J. "Algeria." World Book Encyclopedia. 1993 ed.
- Robins, Eric and Blaine Littell. Africa: Images and Realities. New York: Praeger Co., 1972.
- Spencer, William. "Algeria." Encarta '95. CD-ROM. 1995 ed.