

TutorText May Answer Questions Similar to the Following:

1. How do I cite a source in MLA format in the body of the essay? Does it require the last name and year or the last name and page number?
2. My professor is persnickety about the works cited page in MLA format. Does the year of publication appear in parenthesis? How do I cite a text with more than one author?
3. My professor does not allow us to use infinitives (“to be”) verbs in our essays. How do I revise this sentence without the infinitive?
4. Am I using the gerund (“ing” verb) correctly in the sentence? Example: Being that the instructor is not available, I had to meet with her after hours.
5. I have a thesis sentence, but I’m not sure if it is strong enough. Can you read understand the point I am making? Example: Although linguists are correct in arguing translation as a factor in communication issues, Tan’s “Mother Tongue” reveals that one cannot disregard the culture connection to language and translation as well.
6. Are titles of books placed in italics or in quotation marks? Example: “Joy Luck Club” or *Joy Luck Club*?
7. How do I cite a quote within a quote?
8. My instructor frequently comments that I use run-on sentences in my essays. What is a run on sentence? How do I avoid this in writing my essay?
9. The instructions for my first essay in ENGL 1302 require I write a rhetorical analysis over Carr’s “Is Google Making Us Stupid?” essay. What is a rhetorical analysis? What does my teacher expect?
10. How do I write a strong conclusion paragraph? My instructor often comments that the conclusion is weak or the paper feels incomplete.
11. What is a signal phrase? How do I use it to introduce a quotation?

TutorText Can **NOT** Answer Questions Related to the Following:

1. Please do not send complete drafts of essays and request revision or editing. Students should send complete essays to the drop box at [owl@collin.edu](mailto:owl@collin.edu) or make an appointment with the Writing Center.
2. TutorText will not be able to answer questions about organizational issues, as organization and planning may require an extended explanation.
3. TutorText should not be used for extended brainstorming sessions. As brainstorming requires conversation, planning, and organization, it is advised that students make an appointment in the Writing Center for brainstorming sessions.