

Citation at a glance: Short work from a Web site (MLA)

To cite a short work from a Web site in MLA style, include the following elements:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 Author | 5 Update date (“n.d.” if there is no date) |
| 2 Title of short work | 6 Medium |
| 3 Title of Web site | 7 Date of access |
| 4 Sponsor of Web site | |

ON-SCREEN VIEW OF SHORT WORK

The image shows two screenshots of a web browser. The top screenshot is of the MIT Communications Forum homepage, with a URL bar showing <http://web.mit.edu/comm-forum/papers/bearings.html>. The page has a navigation menu on the left (home, calendar, forums, conferences, papers, search) and a logo for the MIT Communications Forum in the center. The bottom screenshot is of a page titled "Bearings" by Henry Jenkins, with a URL bar showing <http://web.mit.edu/comm-forum/papers.html>. The page has a navigation menu on the left and a list of papers below it. The paper "Bearings" by Henry Jenkins is highlighted, with a date of February 19, 2002.

LINKS PAGE ON WEB SITE FOR SHORT WORK

(continued)


Source: Diana Hacker (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006).

This paper has been updated to follow the style guidelines in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (2009).

BROWSER PRINTOUT OF SHORT WORK

conferences <http://web.mit.edu/comm-forum/papers/bearings.html>

home
calendar
forums
conferences
papers
search

 mit communications forum

mailing list
about this site
mit

Bearings
by Henry Jenkins

How new is news?

Representative democracy emerged in the context of a relatively slow flow of information between the capital and the periphery. Elected representatives were delegated to make decisions for the public, in part because they had quicker access to reliable information. The earliest American newspapers were content to reproduce "intelligence" gathered from ships as they passed through their harbours, information about events that might have occurred months earlier at some other port of call. It is remarkable, given the geographic distance separating the thirteen original colonies, that they were able to think of themselves as having collective interests, as forming, in Benedict Anderson's terms, an "imaginary community" that could stand firm against distant European powers. The complex balance between federal and state authority established in the U.S. Constitution might be understood as a negotiation between the ideal of local control and the recognition of the slow flow of information across those huge geographic distances. The introduction of the telegraph dramatically accelerated the flow of news, and it has been followed throughout the twentieth century by a succession of faster technologies that allow minute by minute, real time reporting of distant events.

In turn, these technologies have established public expectations about timely delivery of the news. The result of this urgency to give us the news as quickly as possible has been a complex layering of the television newscast – sometimes splitting the screen to report on simultaneous events worldwide (such as the simultaneous impeachment vote and American attacks on Baghdad), sometimes introducing multiple windows and layers of textual information (as with the "crawls" introduced by the cable news networks in response to the complex geopolitics of the post-September 11 world). The impact of this accelerated and intensified news flow has been, many warn, a loss of editorial judgement, the circulation of more misinformation. The speed of the networked computer increases expectations for an even faster news flow, with the public often turning to on-line sources with the anticipation that they will be able to offer in-depth information (a product of what Janet Murray calls our encyclopedic expectations for new media) as rapidly as television news can provide the headlines. This speeded-up dispersion of important information has led some to speculate that the Internet might make participatory democracy practical for the first time in the modern era. But others have argued that new media may undermine the serious and thoughtful deliberation upon which democracy depends.

Who owns the news?

Writers such as Robert McChesney have spoken of the danger of media concentration: today, five major corporations control the bulk of the world's media. Deregulation has enabled these organizations to become significant players across a whole range of media channels. News has increasingly become one commodity among many within multinational media industries, packaged and sold alongside entertainment, evaluated according to costs and audience share, rather than traditional journalistic standards. Some have claimed that digital media have lowered the barriers to

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WORKS CITED ENTRY FOR A SHORT WORK FROM A WEB SITE

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Jenkins, Henry. "Bearings." *MIT Communications Forum*. MIT.

5 — 6 — 7 —
19 Feb. 2002. Web. 16 June 2005.