**Citing Drama**

The text of a play is cited differently from traditional prose works. Because plays are often printed in many editions and anthologies, **it is customary to cite the act, scene, and line number rather than the page number**in your in-text citations.

*Tips for citing plays:*

* Begin with the broadest division (usually act) and continue through the smallest division (usually scene or line).
* Separate each division with a period. Label each division so the reader knows exactly where to find the quotation in the text.
* Some plays will contain more or fewer divisions than act, scene, & line. Use as much information as is available in the text.

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**Quoting a Single Character MLA 6.4.8**

If you quote a remark from one character, you can incorporate it into the body of the paragraph.

*Example 1:*

Nora's epiphany occurs when she realizes her husband will never reciprocate the sacrifices she's made to protect his pride. She finally stands up to Helmer, telling him, "You neither think nor talk like the man I could join myself to" (*Doll a*ct 3).

(Note: Ibsen's *A Doll House*is divided by act only. This will be the only division you can cite.)

*Example 2:*

Although Oedipus blames the gods for his tragic fate, he admits that his latest misfortune is his own doing when he cries, "But the blinding hand was my own! How could I bear to see when all my sight was horror everywhere?" (*Oedipus*exodus. strophe 2. lines 114-116).

(Note: *Oedipus Rex*is broken into numerous divisions; all available divisions are included in the citation.)

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**Quoting Dialogue (2 or More Characters) MLA 3.7.4**

*Tips for quoting dialogue:*

* Begin the quotation on a new line.
* Set the quotation off from the body of your paper with one inch indentations.
* If a character's speech continues onto the next line of your paper, indent subsequent lines an additional 1/4 inch (about 3 spaces).
* Double-space each line.
* Write the characters' names in capital letters followed by a period.
* Do not use quotation marks.

*Example 1:*

      OEDIPUS. Ah, what net has God been weaving for me?

      IOCASTÊ. Oedipus! What does this trouble you?

      OEDIPUS. Do not ask me yet. First, tell me how Laïos looked, and tell me how old he was.

      IOCASTÊ. He was tall, his hair just touched with white; his form was not unlike your own.

      OEDIPUS. I think that I myself may be accursed by my own ignorant edict. (*Oedipus*scene 2. antistrophe 2. lines 211-216)

*Example 2:*

      KROGSTAD. Yes, yes, yes, to the point: there's still time, and I'm advising you to use your

         influence to prevent it.

      NORA. But Mr. Krogstad, I have absolutely no influence.

      KROGSTAD. You haven't? I thought you were just saying -

      NORA. You shouldn't take me so literally! How can you believe that I have any such influence

          over my husband? (*Doll*act 1)

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**Works Cited**

Ibsen, Henrik. *A Doll House.*Trans. Rolf Fjelde. *Literature: Reading, Fiction, Poetry, and Drama.*Ed. Robert DiYanni. 6th ed.

         Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2007. 1666-1715. Print.

Sophocles. *Oedipus Rex.*Trans. Dudley Fitts and Robert Fitzgerald. *Literature: Reading Fiction, Poetry, and Drama.*Ed. Robert

         DiYanni. 6th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2007. 1307-1346. Print.