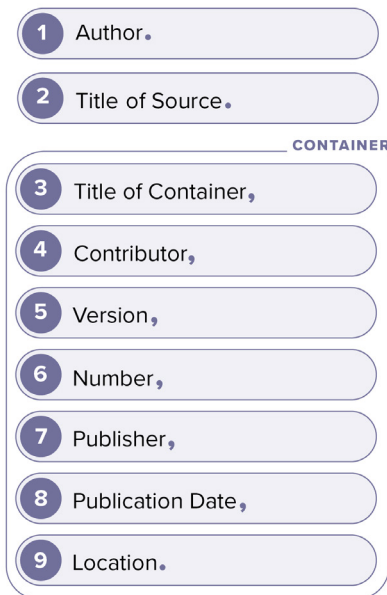


## QUICK GUIDE

# Using the MLA Template of Core Elements



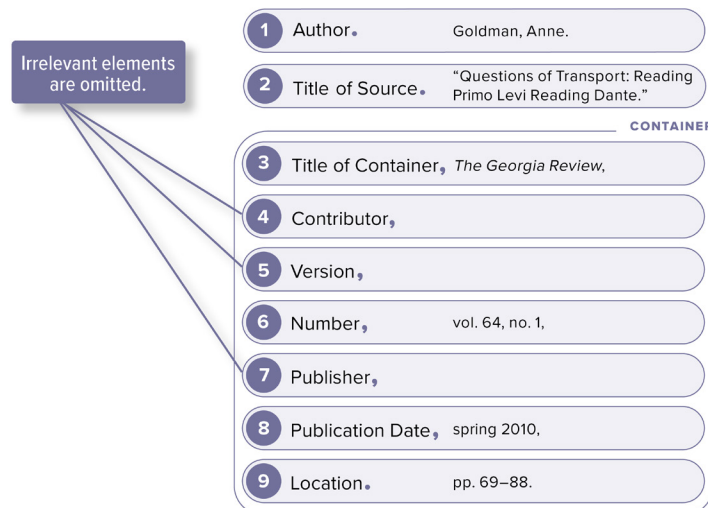
MLA Template of Core Elements

You can think of the MLA core elements as the building blocks of a works-cited-list entry. They are facts common to most sources, like **author**, **title**, and **publication date**. To use the MLA template of core elements, evaluate the work you're citing and then list each element relevant to your source in the order given on the template. Omit any element that does not apply to your source except Title of Source. If no title is given, use your own description of the work as the title.

In MLA style, a container is a work that contains other works. *The MLA Handbook* explains all about [containers in MLA style](#).

## Journal Article in Print: One Container

A journal article in print has one container: the journal contains the article.

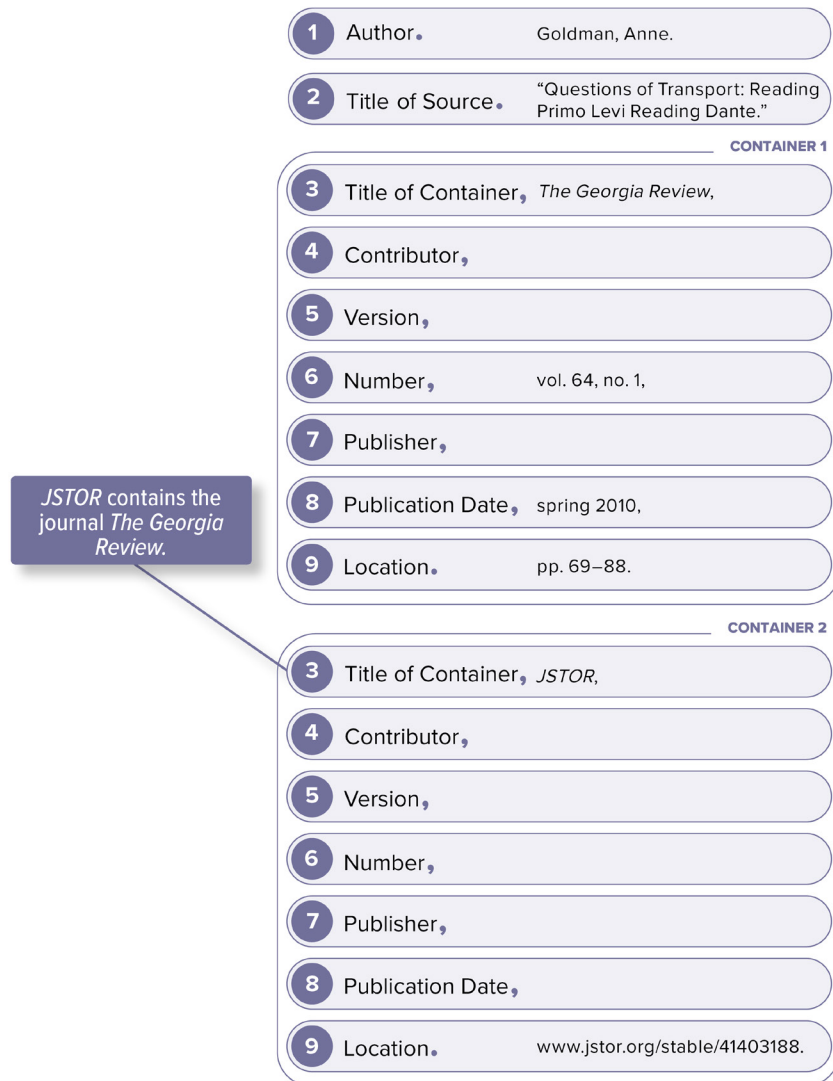


Here's the works-cited-list entry:

Goldman, Anne. "Questions of Transport: Reading Primo Levi Reading Dante." *The Georgia Review*, vol. 64, no. 1, spring 2010, pp. 69–88.

## Journal Article in a Database: Two Containers

A journal article in a database has two containers: the journal contains the article, and the database contains the journal.

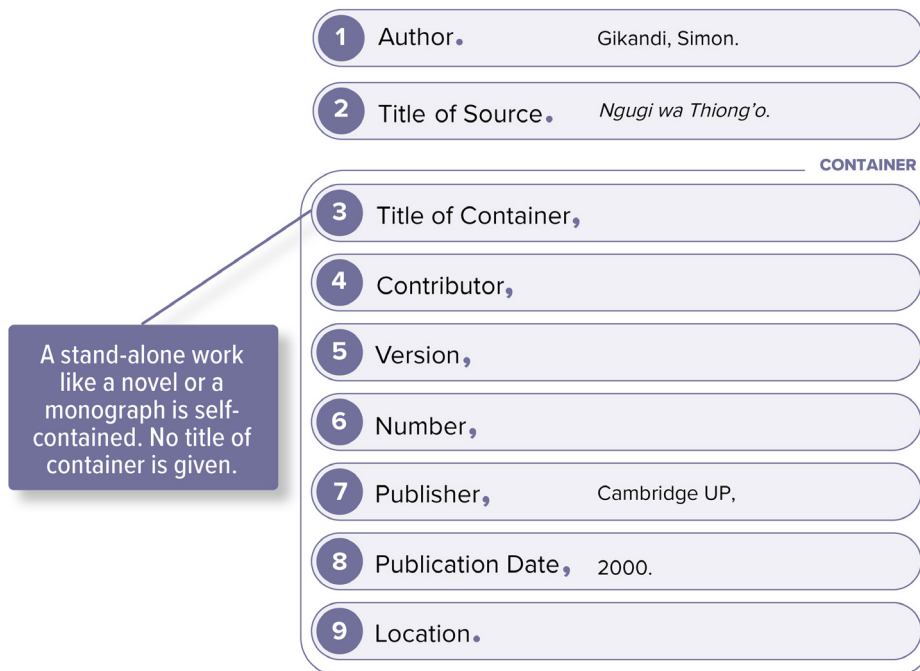


Here's the works-cited-list entry:

Goldman, Anne. "Questions of Transport: Reading Primo Levi Reading Dante." *The Georgia Review*, vol. 64, no. 1, spring 2010, pp. 69–88. *JSTOR*, [www.jstor.org/stable/41403188](http://www.jstor.org/stable/41403188).

## Book: No Container

Some works don't have a container.



Here's the works-cited-list entry:

**Gikandi, Simon.** *Ngugi wa Thiong'o.* Cambridge UP, 2000.

## Practice Using the MLA Template of Core Elements

Learn more about using the template of core elements and find additional examples of the three most common types of entries in our video course [MLA Style 101: Using the Practice Template](#).

For further guidance, check out [MLA Style 101](#), a series of videos highlighting each of the MLA core elements.