

MLA Format for Papers

- typed, black ink
- double-spaced
- one-inch margins
- 12-point font
- Times New Roman
- on the first page, include your name, teacher name, name of course, and date (*double-spaced in upper left hand corner*)
- double space before your clever title (*centered*)
- double space before paper (*no other spaces needed*)
See a first page example below.
- Works Cited page at end, if necessary (*see sample works cited page on the Writing Style Handbook website*)

Sample First Page Below

Student Name

Teacher Name

Name of Course

Date

Manners Cannot Save One from Reality

People are shamefully attracted to two things: the glamorous and the fall of the glamorous. In Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*, New York's high society of the 1870's is placed into the perspective of the wealthy protagonist, Newland Archer. He is expected to marry the innocent, yet beautiful May Welland, but he finds his heart drawn to Ellen Olenska, May's cousin. Ellen's differences are looked down upon by the elders, who hold a tight rein on authority, as she does not fit into the definition they have provided for a woman. However, she opens up Newland's eyes, and he starts to see all that is wrong with his lifestyle and surroundings. This realization puts him in a situation that can either provide a purpose for his life or mercilessly destroy it. *Tender is the Night* by F. Scott Fitzgerald also reflects an affluent society, but it is set in 1920's French Riviera. It follows the marriage of Dick and Nicole Diver and the calamity that Dick's affair with the young Rosemary Hoyt brings to them. Dick plays both a doctor and a husband to Nicole, his former mental patient, and her improvements highlight the overall downfall of her "heroic" husband.

Both authors pave a similar route of irony for their heroes as they allow them to fall into a state of demise. Wharton and Fitzgerald's use of literary techniques and personal style paint a portrait of ignorance and deception. With emphasis on appearances, duties, and generational roles, the divisions between the cultures of Europeans and Americans in both novels become