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Sample first and last page of 8th Edition MLA Paper

English 101-E

31 March 2018

Agony and *Ennui*: The Story of the Lecture

Many students might wonder how the lecture originated. At first, no professors lectured at all. They instead used more primitive ways of encouraging learning. Renaissance Spaniards, ever eager to enlighten their students, found devices such as the rack, hot iron, and thumbscrews to be effective motivation for their pupils (Torquemada 72). It worked so well that 95% of the population accepted instruction (Wheeler 137).

These early techniques for settling debates and instilling knowledge were indeed effective but required a large volume of space in each classroom. De Sade suggests, "early compromises such as teaching composition in dungeons proved inefficient" (221). He also notes that the janitor's guild complained about the time it took to clean up the mess after each lesson (223). Professor J. Dahlmer at the Institute for Advanced Psychological Study suggests more modern techniques are necessary:

Many students complain that lectures bore them. Who wants to learn about enthymemes, syllogisms, and persuasive argumentation? I propose adding spice to academic life. Let the administration plant land-mines and trapdoors in the halls. . . . Teachers could install electrical shock devices to randomly "zap" students at their desks. This innovation would keep students awake and alert. (18)

This suggestion has gained popularity with other persons of substance. Military leader Genghis Khan has claimed, "I know that some backward humanists oppose this idea in general, but I find the suggestion delightful. Why stop there? Let's incorporate guillotines as well" ("Getting" 41). Certainly, such items are

becoming cheaper as the war in Syria continues. Indeed, some scholars suggest that teachers

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Note the **double-spacing**. List entries alphabetically by author's last name (or title if anonymous). The very first name in each entry is listed "last-name first, first-name last"; all the later names in the same entry appear in normal order. The first line is flush with the left margin, but later lines in that entry are "**hanging**," i.e., indented one-half inch. To cite two sources by a single author in MLA format, indicate use three hyphens and a period. See Genghis Khan for an example of this procedure, above. A period appears after author, title, and pages, but commas after most other parts. The abbreviation "UP" for "University Press" uses no periods. Translators' and editors' names will appear after the section they translated or edited, and capitalization will vary. If there are more than three authors or editors, list only the first individual's name, followed by the Latin abbreviation "*et al.*" For electronic books (like the first entry in the Genghis Khan examples), include the name of the service that provides the book to our library such as *Netlibrary*, *Proquest ebrary*, *EbscoHost*, or *Palgrave Connect*, etc., just as you would with a database of articles. Each entry concludes with a period.