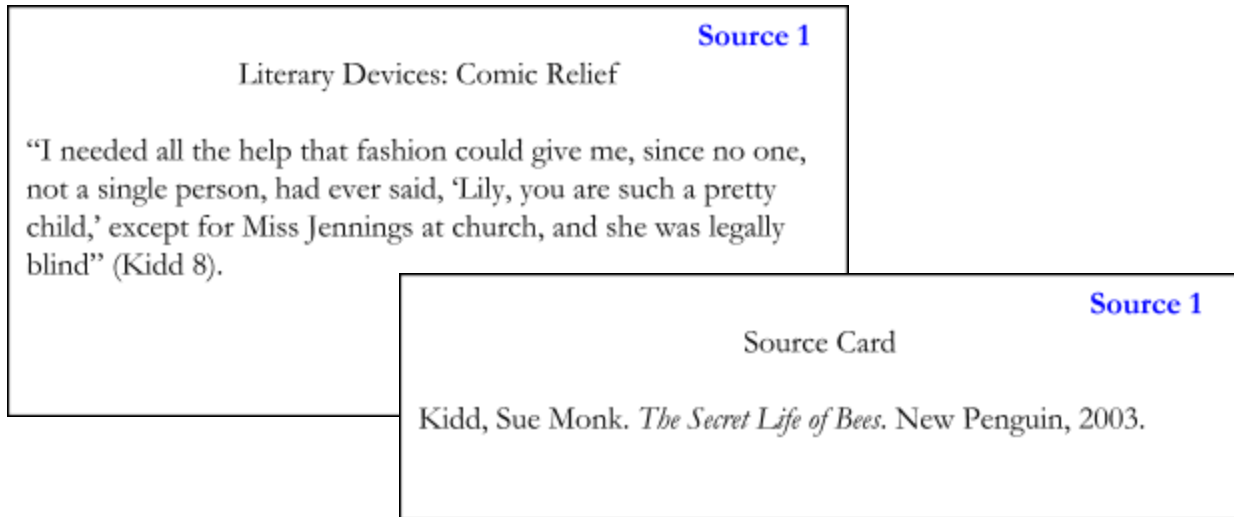


## Using Parenthetical Citations

A parenthetical citation quickly informs the reader of the source of your information. It usually includes the first **word** (excluding A, An, or The) of the source citation and the page number (when available) in parentheses.



### In your paper:

Lily comically exclaims, "I needed all the help that fashion could give me, since no one, not a single person, had ever said, 'Lily, you are such a pretty child,' except for Miss Jennings at church, and she was legally blind" (Kidd 8).



**This is the  
parenthetical  
citation!**

## Common Citation Issues

- If you include the author's name in a lead-in phrase, you do not need to include it in the parenthetical citation. The citation should only include the page number on which you found the quotation.
- If you have two or more works by the same author in your Works Cited, include the author's last name, the title of the work, and the page number in your parenthetical citation. For example: (Kidd, *The Secret Life* 8).
- If you quote an indirect source (i.e. someone else's comments published in a source) use the abbreviation "qtd. in" before the author's last name in the parenthetical citation. For example: (qtd. in Kidd 22).
- You must cite the source of all background material, such as summary of history context.
- You usually do not need to put a parenthetical citation after every sentence in a research paper. If you are writing several sentences in a row that paraphrase from a single source, you can wait to insert a citation until after about three sentences from that single source. Some teachers may even let you write a whole paragraph paraphrasing from a single source with one citation at the end. However, each time you change sources, you must add a new parenthetical citation, and each time you use information from a different page of a source, you must add a new parenthetical citation. Check with your teachers to be clear on their expectations.
- When synthesizing multiple sources along with your own ideas, you should cite every sourced sentence so that the reader understands that any unsourced sentences are your own analysis.