

Name _____

Style Wars: Cite Club Answer Key

Completed Comparison Chart

Feature	APA	MLA	Chicago
How AI is described	A non-recoverable source treated as a form of <i>personal communication</i> .	A named author (the AI tool) responding to a specific <i>prompt</i> that becomes the title.	A software or digital tool that can be cited in a note; treated like a mix of <i>communication</i> and <i>software documentation</i> .
Whether it uses a reference entry	No reference entry is required unless requested; the in-text citation is sufficient because responses cannot be retrieved.	Requires a full Works Cited entry including the prompt, date, and URL for transparency.	Can appear as a footnote or in the bibliography depending on the instructor's preference and context of use.
How the AI is treated (author, tool, or communication)	Treated as a <i>personal communication</i> —something only available to the user.	Treated as an <i>authoring tool</i> credited for its response.	Treated as a <i>tool or contributor</i> cited contextually when it adds substantive content.
Example of in-text or footnote style	(OpenAI, personal communication, October 6, 2025)	OpenAI. <i>Response to "Explain how to cite AI as a source." ChatGPT</i> , 6 Oct. 2025, https://chat.openai.com/ .	1. OpenAI, <i>Response to a question about AI citations, ChatGPT</i> , October 6, 2025, https://chat.openai.com/ .
Key difference from other styles	Focuses on accessibility and verifiability—no need to reference non-recoverable material.	Prioritizes transparency and documentation of the <i>exact prompt and date</i> of generation.	Allows flexible treatment—AI can be cited in a note, footnote, or bibliography depending on its role in the writing.