

Annotated Bibliography Assignment

Template

Assign a number of primary sources for your students to research: information from the era of your topic.

- **Primary Source**-The most common definition of a primary source is that which is written or produced in the time period. Primary sources are materials directly related to a topic by time or participation. These materials include letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles from the time, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, artifacts, or anything else that provides first-hand accounts about a person or event. This definition also applies to primary sources found on the internet.

Assign a number of secondary sources for your students to research: Begin with secondary sources. These will provide historical context, may assist you toward primary sources relevant to your topic.

- **Secondary Source**- Secondary sources are usually published books or articles by authors who were not eyewitnesses or participants in the historical event or period and who base their interpretation on primary sources, research, and study. These sources provide context for a historical event. For example, high school history textbooks, biographies, retrospective newspapers and other history books about a particular topic are secondary sources. This definition also applies to secondary sources found on the internet.

Use credible sources. Experts in the field write credible sources. They are peer reviewed and fact checked. If you have questions about your source's credibility, you need to investigate further. This is especially important when using information collected from the internet. *Always* complete a website evaluation *before* using a website. When evaluating websites keep in mind:

- Who wrote, published, and maintains the site? Does it contain copyrighted material?
- What is the purpose of the site? Does it contain factual information or is the content ONLY opinion?
- Is it easy to navigate?

NOTE: This evaluation process applies to ALL sources you plan on using for your project!!! BE CRITICAL!

How to develop an annotated bibliography - Each source must be correctly cited and contain an annotation. For the citation, include all the relevant information you will need to direct someone else to that source:

- Author or Editor
- Publisher, Year of publication or copy-right
- City of publication
- Title article, book, journal, essay --- will need to include volume numbers when applicable
- Title of article
- Page numbers
- Hosts and URL addresses for websites

The annotations should be 5+ sentences and include:

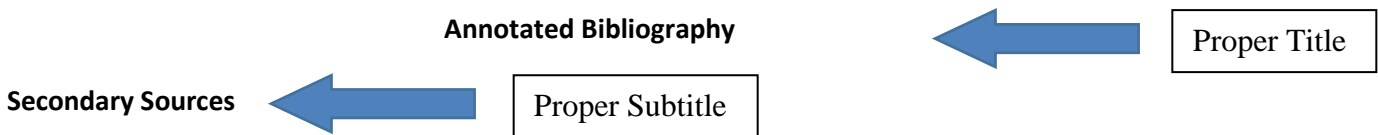
- What is this source about? (Don't just explain about your topic. Summarize what is included in this source)
- Describe why it helps you with your topic/project. What does it bring to your research that helps you understand your topic/prove your thesis?
- CITATIONS - YOU ARE NOT DONE with this until you have PROPERLY cited the source!

This document was created by Dr. Jennifer Bratyanski of Providence Day School as part of the 2023-2024 UNC World View Global Fellows Program. For more information about the program, please visit <http://worldview.unc.edu/>.

FOR ANNOTATION - each annotation will at the very least be one well written paragraph

- What is this source about? (Don't just explain about your topic. Summarize what is included in this source)
- Describe why it helps you with your topic/project. What does it bring to your research that helps you understand your topic/prove your thesis?
- **CITATIONS** - YOU ARE NOT DONE with this until you have PROPERLY cited the source!

A good annotated bibliography entry contains the following elements:



Collinson, Simon. "President or King?" *History Today* Nov. 2000: 9-15. *eLibrary*. Web. 15 Aug. 2011.

<<http://www.elibrary.com>>. Proper Citation Format (MLA in this case)

This journal article argues that the partisan conflict that developed in the 1790s and came to a head in the election of 1800 was a result of the application of the ideals of the American Revolution.

Understanding the American Revolution was the defining event in the lives of the electorate, the author argues that the Republicans used this event to appeal to voters, arguing that they would be completing the "revolution of 1776." This article helped in my research to help develop my thesis on the rise of the Republican Party as an outgrowth of the revolutionary generation.

The last section should be written in PAST tense, and explain HOW you USED this source in your research.

Annotated Bibliography Instructions

TOPIC NAME:

Make sure that your entry contains:

- Primary sources are listed first, and listed in alphabetical order by the first word in the citation (excluding “a,” “an,” and “the.”)
- Secondary sources are listed next, and listed in alphabetical order by the first word in the citation (excluding “a,” “an,” and “the.”)
- A proper title
- A subheading listing whether the source is a primary or secondary source.
- A properly formatted MLA citation.
- A properly formatted annotation.
- Carefully checked for proper spelling, grammar, capitalization, and conventions (use the checklists on this sheet to help you).

RUBRIC for Each Annotation (Total of 10 annotations)

Proper title	0	1
Proper subtitle	0	1
Properly formatted citation	0	1
What is this source about? (Don't just explain about your topic. Summarize what is included in this source) Summarize in your own words what is included in this source. Students should avoid "copying and pasting" and instead work on paraphrasing / summarizing in your own words.	0	1 2
Describe why it helps you with your topic/project. What does it bring to your research that helps you understand your topic?	0	1 2
Edited with correct spelling and grammar	0	1

Total: _____/10

Helpful Guide for your Annotated Bibliography ---- not required, but helpful for organizational purposes

1. **TYPE OF SOURCE** (circle one) Primary or Secondary

2. SOURCE INFORMATION:

Title / Name of Source: _____

Article Title (if needed) _____

Type (book, interview, etc): _____ Volume/Edition (if needed) _____

Author(s)/ Editor(s): _____

Publisher: _____

City, State and Year Published: _____

Pages Used: _____

FOR WEBSITES ONLY:

URL: (www) _____

When it was electronically published: _____ Date Used: _____

3. NOTES FROM THE SOURCE: Type of notes: (circle all that apply):

Summary paraphrase and/or quotations

Name: _____ Date: _____

Quotes (p.)from article/book	Why quote is important

Summary

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