

## English 11R – Annotated Bibliography for Research Paper

In preparation for writing your research paper, you will complete an annotated bibliography of your sources. You must consult a minimum of four different sources (example: journal, book, website). More will result in a higher grade. You will be judged on the accuracy of your citations as well as the quality of your annotations.

### WHAT IS AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY?

An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief (usually about 100 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph, called an *annotation*. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited.

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### THE PROCESS

Creating an annotated bibliography calls for the application of a variety of intellectual skills: concise exposition, succinct analysis, and informed library research.

First, locate and record citations to books, periodicals, and documents that may contain useful information and ideas on your topic. Briefly examine and review the actual items. Then choose those works that provide a variety of perspectives on your topic.

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### CHOOSING THE CORRECT FORMAT FOR THE CITATIONS

Cite the book, article, or document using the appropriate format.

This may be done using [www.easybib.com](http://www.easybib.com) or the TZ **Research Paper Guide** (available at [www.socsd.org/researchguide.pdf](http://www.socsd.org/researchguide.pdf)).

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### CRITICALLY APPRAISING THE BOOK, ARTICLE, OR DOCUMENT

Write a concise annotation that summarizes the central theme and scope of the book or article. Include one or more sentences that (a) evaluate the authority or background of the author, (b) comment on the intended audience, (c) compare or contrast this work with another you have cited, or (d) explain how this work illuminates your research topic.

*Annotations may consist of all or part of the following items:*

- describe the content (focus) of the item
- describe the usefulness of the item
- discuss any limitations that the item may have, *e.g. bias, timeliness etc.*
- describe what audience the item is intended for
- evaluate the methods (research) used in the item
- evaluate reliability of the item
- discuss the author's background
- discuss any conclusions the author(s) may have made
- describe your reaction to the item

(continued) →

**Question:** What is an annotated bibliography?

**Answer:** A works cited in MLA format with explanations of the source's credibility and how it will help you with your topic

**It HAS to be typed!**

**DUE Tuesday, 11/19**

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**SAMPLE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRY FOR A BOOK**

Ling, Rich. The Mobile Connection: The Cell Phone's Impact on Society. San Francisco: Morgan Kaufmann, 2004.

This book helps the reader understand new communication devices and the impacts on society. It talks about the history of mobile phones, the growth of the mobile market, and the safety and security issues surrounding mobile phones. There is an entire section in Chapter 3 about driving and cell phone use which directly relates to my paper topic. However, the book is written from a psychological perspective which may not be useful to me. In addition, because the book was published in 2004, I'm not too sure if it is the most current information.

**SAMPLE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRY FOR AN ARTICLE [ACCESSED ON THE WEB]**

United States of Transportation. Natl. Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "An Investigation of the Safety Implications of Wireless Communications in Vehicles." *NHTSA*. Natl. Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Nov. 1997. 12 Mar. 2001.  
<<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/research/wireless/>>

This article discusses a lot of the safety issues surrounding the use of cell phones in vehicles. Both the research studies and crash data reviewed in this report highlight several factors in which cell phone use can increase the risk of a crash. Among these, conversation appears to be most associated with crashes. However, the authors conclude that there is insufficient data to truly determine the severity of the problem. One problem with this article is that it is a bit old; there may be more current studies on the subject, but because it is a government study, the information should be reliable.

**Annotated Bibliography due:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annotated Bibliography Pointers:** \*\*\*See pages 4-5 of your packet

\* Sources should be listed alphabetically based on the first piece of information listed (usually author or title)

\* Use Hanging Indents:

Mercury, Fred. "How Global Warming is Impacting Our  
→ Weather." *Science World News*. 9 July 2005.  
New York.

**Annotations:**

Explain the content of the article and how it will help your research. (approx 4-6 sentences each)

\*\*No more than 50% of your sources can be from the Internet (articles accessed electronically through databases are considered print sources: if there's a print equivalent, it's considered a print source).

**Annotated Bibliography Assignment Rubric**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Article/Book Selection (Possible 5 points) Score: \_\_\_\_\_**

5	More than 4 articles/books are selected. All works are less than 5 years old (or justification is provided for older articles). Information comes from a variety of sources. No more than one-half are online sources; no encyclopedias or Wikipedia.
4	4 articles/books are selected. All works are less than 5 years old (or justification is provided for older articles). Information comes from a limited number of sources. No more than one-half are online sources; no encyclopedias or Wikipedia.
3	4 articles/books are selected. Several works are over 5 years in age, with no justification regarding their inclusion. Information lacks depth or come from a limited number of sources.
2	Fewer than 4 articles/books are selected. Several works are over 5 years in age, with no justification regarding their inclusion. Only 2-3 works show relevance. Information comes from a limited number of sources or from unreliable sources.
1	Significantly fewer than 4 articles/books are selected. They are over 5 years of age, and/or are not relevant and/or come from only 1 or 2 sources.

**Analysis and Reflection (Possible 10 points) Score: \_\_\_\_\_**

9-10	Analysis of each work includes a summary, critical review, and reflection. Analysis includes thoughtful descriptions of the strengths and weaknesses of the article in answering your research question. Reflection includes a clear description of your opinion about the information with clear identification of how the information will help you.
7-8	Analysis of each work includes a summary, critical review, and reflection. Analysis includes thoughtful descriptions of the strengths and/or weaknesses of the information in answering your research question. Reflection may fail to identify your about the work, and/or show no clear identification of how the information will aid you in answering your research question.
5-6	Analysis of each work includes a summary, critical review, and reflection. Analysis includes descriptions of the strengths and weaknesses of the work, but appears to only be based on your opinion, rather than on factual information from the article/book. Reflection fails to identify your opinion about the information, and/or there is no clear identification of how the information will aid you in answering your research question.
3-4	Fewer than 3 sources selected <b>and/or</b> Analysis of each work includes a summary and critical review, but there is no meaningful reflection.
1-2	There is haphazard and inconsistent presentation of works. No clearly defined summaries, critical reviews, or reflection is presented.

**Quality of Work (Possible 5 points) Score: \_\_\_\_\_**

5	Student submits an analysis for each work. Information is within the length guidelines and is typewritten. There are no spelling or gross grammatical errors. Citations are in the correct MLA format.
4	Student submits an analysis for each work. Information is within the length guidelines and is typewritten. There are several spelling or grammatical errors. Most citations are in the correct MLA format.
3	Student may or may not submit an analysis for each work. Information is either longer or shorter than the length guidelines and is typewritten. There are multiple spelling or gross grammatical errors, making the information difficult to understand. Some citations may not be in the proper format.
2	Student may or may not submit an analysis for each work. Information is handwritten. There are multiple spelling or gross grammatical errors, making the information difficult to understand. Many errors in citations.
1	Fewer than 3 sources selected <b>and/or</b> Work is submitted with gross errors in spelling, grammar, and/or citations.

**FINAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_/20**