Annotated Bibliography FAQs

Useful Link

Purdue OWL “Annotated Bibliography Samples”
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/03/

What is a bibliography?
A bibliography is a systematic description of sources used for research and in planning papers or large projects. It is a list of all relevant sources consulted, not only those cited (this is a References or Works Cited list). It is a description of sources that provide context or stimulate discussion in relation to the chosen topic or field.

What are annotations?
Annotations are detailed descriptions, usually a single paragraph underneath a bibliographic entry. It should both summarize the work and evaluate its contribution to a field of study or a research project.

How do I make an annotated bibliography?
Try using these four steps:
1st Define a topic and create a research plan
2nd Read strategically for the most relevant material
3rd Summarize each source
4th Note how the sources relate to one another

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Sample Entries and Annotation Paragraph

MLA style entry

APA style entry

Integrating sources well is an art all writers should master, and it begins with strong research. Ironically, this is both easier and harder in the digital age. The translators comment on the paradox of research advice from the era before the internet being relevant. Students can now access nearly anything from anywhere almost immediately. Yet, such abundance may lead to losing a sense of where ideas came from and how they relate to each other. Eco emphasizes how the systems set out in the book instill fundamental academic virtues which then aid in owning both the process and the product of research. While it may seem trivial, understanding the bibliographic details of sources is, in fact, essential to using them effectively. This book has been popular globally for over 30 years for very good reason. It offers not only sound advice but also delightful turns of phrase in communicating a profound understanding of scholarship.

**NOTE:** The paraphrase here is in a **bold font** only so it is easier to spot; the entire paragraph should be in a normal font in your work.

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