

Research Situation: In our study of the material this year, we have been introduced to many different social issues that we continue to address in society today – the “monsters” of the modern world that cry for heroes to battle them. This will be your opportunity to look at an issue of interest to you in greater depth – and apply your understanding and passion towards researching and considering your solution to vanquish the “monster.”

Part Two: Annotated Bibliography: Due: _____ (twenty-five points: There should be NO/zero similarities with other papers since the responses should be original.)

Questions that you want to answer through your research:

- What is the nature of the problem?
- How long has this problem been occurring?
- Why has it not been solved? What solutions have been tried?
- What may work that has not been attempted? How much will it cost?

Library Research: Choose five (5) SCHOLARLY sources – Choose a variety of credible sites and people.

Assignment: Using the MLA format, create a TYPEWRITTEN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY of your five sources as they relate to your chosen subject – submit online to Google Classroom by _____ . Please make sure that you follow the correct format (alphabetical order of publication information, summary, assessment, and reflection).

What is an Annotated Bibliography? (see <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>)

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Summary:

This handout provides information about annotated bibliographies in MLA, APA, and CMS.

Annotated Bibliographies

Definitions

A **bibliography** is a list of sources (books, journals, websites, periodicals, etc.) one has used for researching a topic. Bibliographies are sometimes called "references" or "works cited" depending on the style format you are using. A bibliography usually just includes the bibliographic information (i.e., the author, title, publisher, etc.).

An **annotation** is a summary and/or evaluation.

Therefore, an annotated bibliography includes a summary and/or evaluation of each of the sources; your annotated bibliography must include these three sections (one paragraph per section):

- **Summarize (one paragraph, five to seven sentences):** Some annotations merely summarize the source. What are the main arguments? What is the point of this book or article? What topics are covered? If someone asked what this article/book is about, what would you say? The length of your annotations will determine how detailed your summary is.
- **Assessment/Evaluation (one to two paragraphs, five to seven sentences per paragraph):** After summarizing a source, it may be helpful to evaluate it. Some guiding questions:
 - Is it a useful source?
 - How does it compare with other sources in your bibliography?
 - Is the information reliable? Is this source biased or objective? What is the goal of this source?
 - How does it fit into your research? How can you use it?
- **Reflection (one to two paragraphs, five to seven sentences per paragraph):** What do you think about the content?
 - What questions do you have about this source?
 - Do you agree or disagree with the material?
 - Has it changed how you think about your topic?

Why should I write an annotated bibliography?

To learn about your topic: Writing an annotated bibliography is excellent preparation for a research project. Just collecting sources for a bibliography is useful, but when you have to write

annotations for each source, you're forced to read each source more carefully. You begin to read more critically instead of just collecting information. At the professional level, annotated bibliographies allow you to see what has been done in the literature and where your own research or scholarship can fit. To help you formulate a thesis: Every good research paper is an argument. The purpose of research is to state and support a thesis. So a very important part of research is developing a thesis that is debatable, interesting, and current. Writing an annotated bibliography can help you gain a good perspective on what is being said about your topic. By reading and responding to a variety of sources on a topic, you'll start to see what the issues are, what people are arguing about, and you'll then be able to develop your own point of view....

Format

The bibliographic information: Generally, though, the bibliographic information of the source (the title, author, publisher, date, etc.) is written in either MLA or APA format.

The annotations: The annotations for each source are written in paragraph form. The lengths of the annotations can vary significantly from a couple of sentences to a couple of pages. The length will depend on the purpose.... You can focus your annotations for your own needs. A few sentences of general summary followed by several sentences of how you can fit the work into your larger paper or project can serve you well when you go to draft.

The length of your annotation will depend on the assignment or on the purpose of your annotated bibliography. After summarizing and assessing, you can now reflect on this source. How does it fit into your research? Is this a helpful resource? Too scholarly? Not scholarly enough? Too general/specific? Since "stem cell research" is a very broad topic, has this source helped you to narrow your topic?

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SAMPLE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D47jzOU2GWDC-pQpc2nrryVmXMgKpDyRbjCw6YECyOM/edit?usp=sharing>