

Annotated Bibliographies

This is a discussion of annotated bibliographies. The format and specifics of bibliographies vary depending on the paper type and format, discipline, and professor.

A working bibliography is a list of sources you will create while researching your topic. It will probably include more sources than you end up putting on your works cited page. Once you have this working list, you can take it a step further and create an annotated bibliography.

The purpose of an annotated bibliography is to analyse and evaluate your sources and draw connections between different sources and your topic. An annotated entry should include the information needed to document and locate the source (make sure you find all the necessary information about the source), as well as a brief summary and evaluation of the source (which will be helpful when you start to write your paper!)

What should you include in an annotated bibliography entry?

Include the citation of the source. Your annotation should be made up of a summary of the source (using very few quotes, if any), your interpretation/analysis of the source (how does it connect with other sources you have found?), and your evaluation of the sources (a brief discussion of bias/relevance). This should end up being around three to seven sentences long.

Example of an annotated bibliography entry (MLA) from *A Writer's Reference* by Hacker and Sommers

Gonsalves, Chris. "Wasting Away on the Web." *eWeek*, 8 Aug. 2005, eweek.com/it-management/wasting-away-on-the-web. Accessed 16 May 2018. **(Citation)**

In this editorial, Gonsalves considered the implications of several surveys, including one in which 61% of respondents said that their companies have the right to spy on them **(summary)**. The author agrees with this majority claiming that it's fine if his company chooses to monitor him as long as the company discloses its monitoring practices. He argues that "the days of Internet freedom at work are justifiably finished," adding that he would prefer not to know the extent of the surveillance **(only one quote)**. Gonsalves writes for *eWeek.com*, a publication focused on technology products. He presents himself as an employee who is comfortable with being monitored, but his job may be a source of bias. This editorial contradicts some of my other sources, which claim that employees want to know and should know all the

details of their company's monitoring procedures **(the writer interprets the source and its connection and evaluates in for bias).**

Works Cited:

Hacker, Diana and Nancy Sommers. *A Writer's Reference*. 7th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2011.

Howard, Rebecca Moore. *Writing Matters*. McGraw-Hill, 2010.

Created by Holly Peterson