



HOW TO WRITE AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

What is an annotated bibliography?

An annotated bibliography is a list of citations including articles, a book chapter, books, web sites, movies, and documents, **whereby each citation is followed by a short description and evaluation.**

What is the purpose of an annotated bibliography?

- informs the reader of the relevance and accuracy of the sources
- indicates the quality of the research you have done

What should an annotated bibliography include?

- a complete citation using either MLA or APA style
- information on the qualifications and background of the author
- the main purpose of the book or article
- a brief description of the contents
- the intended audience
- an explanation of the strengths and/or weaknesses of the book or article
- a comparison to other works you have cited

Be concise!

Each annotation should be approximately 150 words long

Examples:

MLA

Herman, Deborah. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Motherhood*. New York: Alpha Books, 1999.

Deborah Herman, a mother of three children and successful writer, shares her experiences and wisdom, and offers guidance for parents in all stages of parenthood. Each section of this book focuses on one stage, from pregnancy through to college years, with added chapters on special needs children, single parenthood, and blended families. Interspersed throughout are anecdotes, warnings, words of wisdom, and definitions. Although much of the book is humorous, it is filled with excellent explanations and good advice, and is one of the most comprehensive parenting books of its kind.

APA

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