

Week 2: Annotated Bibliography

English 102
16 January 2018



**Create a character
(or story with the
character in it)
who never goes
outside....**

Take five to seven approximate minutes.





Pro-Tip

Use your annotated bibliography to help you “notice” issues within your subject. While you always want to find quality sources, don’t fret too much over credibility right now. We’ll do analysis next week to help us separate high-quality sources from low-quality ones.

What should my annotated bibliography look like?

Annotated Bibliography

Citation 1

Smith, Sue. "Psychological Interpretations of 'A Rose for Emily'." *Interpretations of American Literature*. Ed. Frank Harvey. 2nd ed. Vol. 3. New York: Singleton, 1991. 80-89. Print.

Annotation 1

Smith is an emeritus English Professor at the University of Spartanburg, who has published many articles and two books on Faulkner. In this essay, Smith uses Freud's psychological theories to analyze Emily's strange behavior. Freud believed that repressing sexual desires leads to abnormal psychological developments. Smith argues that Emily has developed necrophilia because her father and the genteel Southern culture that she grew up in did not allow her to have a normal relationship with a man. I will use this article to support my thesis that Emily's strange behavior is the result of her upbringing. This article explains psychological theories that can be applied to the story and gives examples from the text where Emily is exhibiting the symptoms of psychological repression and abnormal behavior.

Citation 2

Jones, Joe. "Isolation and Death in Faulkner's Work." *Elucidator* 61.2 (2003): 122-24. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 15 June 2009.

Annotation 2

Jones has a Ph.D. in Faulkner Literature, and the *Elucidator* is a peer-reviewed journal that has been published since 1901. Jones examines Emily's isolation, especially that of her childhood. He concludes that her secret relationship with Homer, who is not part of her social class, is a result of her loneliness and desperation for companionship. In addition, Jones feels that Emily may also be rebelling against her father, who never let her have a relationship. I will use this article to provide support and examples to show that Emily is rebelling against the isolation she felt as a child which carried over into adulthood. Jones' examples point to Emily secretly being very angry with her father and blaming him for her current loneliness.

Sample MLA Annotated Bibliography

Citation → Battle, Ken. "Child Poverty: The Evolution and Impact of Child Benefits." Ed. R. B. Howe and Katherine Covell. *A Question of Commitment: Children's Rights in Canada*.

→ Waterloo: Willford, Laurier University, 2007. 21-44. Print.

→ Ken Battle *draws on a close study of government documents, as well as his own research* → *Mention of the methods used* → as an extensively-published policy analyst, to explain Canadian child benefit

Summary → **programs. He outlines some fundamental assumptions supporting the belief that all**
of → **society members should contribute to the upbringing of children. His comparison of**
the → **child poverty rates in a number of countries is a useful wake-up to anyone assuming**
argument → **Canadian society is doing a good job of protecting children. Battle pays particular**
and/or → **attention to the National Child Benefit (NCB), arguing that it did not deserve to be**
findings → **criticized by politicians and journalists. He outlines the NCB's development, costs,**
→ **and benefits, and laments that the Conservative government scaled it back in favor**

→ **of the inferior Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB). However, he relies too heavily**
→ on his own work; he is the sole or primary author of almost half the sources in his
→ bibliography. He could make this work stronger by drawing from others' perspectives
→ and analyses. However, **Battle does offer a valuable source for this essay, because the**

How this work supports your research

→ **chapter provides a concise overview of government-funded assistance currently**
→ **available to parents. This offers context for analyzing the scope and financial**

→ **reality of child poverty in Canada.**

Evaluation of the work, for example the logic of the arguments on value of evidence



Double Check you're on the right track

Take a few minutes to look over the annotations that you wrote for the two sources you brought in today. If you haven't done the following already, take a few minutes to do so:

- Have you already put the sources into MLA citation?
- Is the purpose & main argument of the source identified in your annotation? What are the main findings or results of the source?
- Have you addressed the source's credibility? Was it peer-reviewed?
- What about its relevance to your research agenda?



What do I need to include in each source entry?

- ❑ A citation to the article, chapter, or other work
- ❑ Qualifications of the author or authors
- ❑ Mention of the methods the author used
- ❑ A summary of the argument and/or findings
- ❑ Evaluation of the work, for example the logic of the arguments or value of the audience
- ❑ **How this work supports your own research**

What else might be included in annotations?

1. Explanation of main points and/or purpose of the work—basically, its thesis—which shows among other things that you have read and thoroughly understand the source.
2. Verification or critique of the authority or qualifications of the author.
3. Comments on the worth, effectiveness, and usefulness of the work in terms of both the topic being researched and/or your own research project.
4. The point of view or perspective from which the work was written. For instance, you may note whether the author seemed to have particular biases or was trying to reach a particular audience.
5. Relevant links to other work done in the area, like related sources, possibly including a comparison with some of those already on your list. You may want to establish connections to other aspects of the same argument or opposing views.



Let's look at this example, what's missing?

London, Herbert. "Five Myths of the Television Age." *Television Quarterly* 10.1 (1982): 81-89

Herbert London, the Dean of Journalism at New York University and author of several books and articles,

explains how television contradicts five commonly believed ideas. He uses specific examples of events seen

on television, such as the assassination of John Kennedy, to illustrate his points. His examples have been

selected to contradict such truisms as: "seeing is believing"; "a picture is worth a thousand words"; and

"satisfaction is its own reward." London uses logical arguments to support his ideas, which are his personal

opinion. He doesn't refer to any previous works on the topic. London's style and vocabulary would make the

article of interest to any reader.



What about this example?

Gurko, Leo. Ernest Hemingway and the Pursuit of Heroism. New York:

Crowell, 1968. This book is part of a series called "Twentieth Century

American Writers": a Brief Introduction to the Man and his Work. After

fifty pages of straight biography, Gurko discussed Hemingway's writing,

novel by novel. There's an index and a short bibliography, but no notes.

The biographical part is clear and easy to read, but it sounds too much

like a summary.

Doll, Susan and Greg Faller. "Blade Runner and Genre: Film Noir and Science Fiction." *Literature Film Quarterly* 14.2 (1986): 89-100. Doll and Faller assert that Ridley Scott's film, *Blade Runner*, exhibits elements of two distinct pulp genres, film noir and science fiction. The genre cross-pollination is a reflection of Philip K. Dick's novel, *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, upon which the movie is based. After a useful discussion of genre, the authors go on to effectively discuss defining characteristics of both noir and sci-fi, despite the difficulties of such a project. Through the course of accessible discussion and useful examples from the film, the complexities involved in the combination of genres are revealed. In addition, the article also examines the ways that noir and sci-fi in fact complement each other, noir providing a distinct style and sci-fi a distinct narrative direction. Both genres are also concerned with many of the same issues, especially social constructs, ethics, and the state of being human.