

Writing an Annotated Bibliography

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What is an annotated bibliography?

This is an organized list of sources (works cited) such as books, journals, newspapers, magazines, web sites, etc., each of which is followed by an annotation or description of the item. The description should describe the content of the item any how it was *useful* for your report.

Why write an annotated bibliography?

To demonstrate the quality of the research you have done, and to show what you have learned from these resources.

What does the annotated bibliography look like?

You write and arrange the bibliographic entries (citations) just as you would any other bibliography. For more information about formatting your bibliography, see the "Bibliography Guidelines Handout." The descriptions should be brief and include only the significant information.

Following are two examples of an MLA annotated entries:

Gregory, Hugh. A Century of Pop: A Hundred Years of Music that Changed the World. Chicago: Illinois, 1998.

I found most of my facts about Dixieland jazz music.

Kernfeld, Berry "Latin Jazz." Grove Music Online ed. 5 October 2003.
Oxford University Press. University High Library, Los Angeles. 10 Apr 2007
<<http://grovemusic.com>>.

I learned how Latin jazz influenced big band music of the 1950s, and also how Latin jazz influenced the creation of Afro-Cuban Jazz. This source helped me to understand how various cultures/ethnicities affected jazz music.