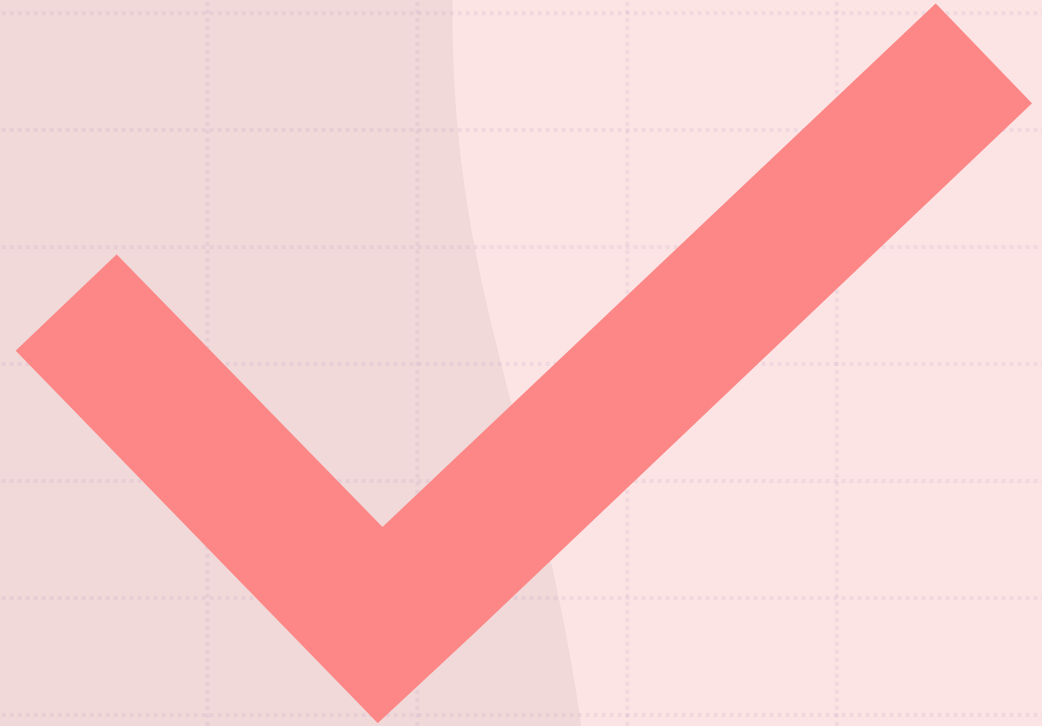


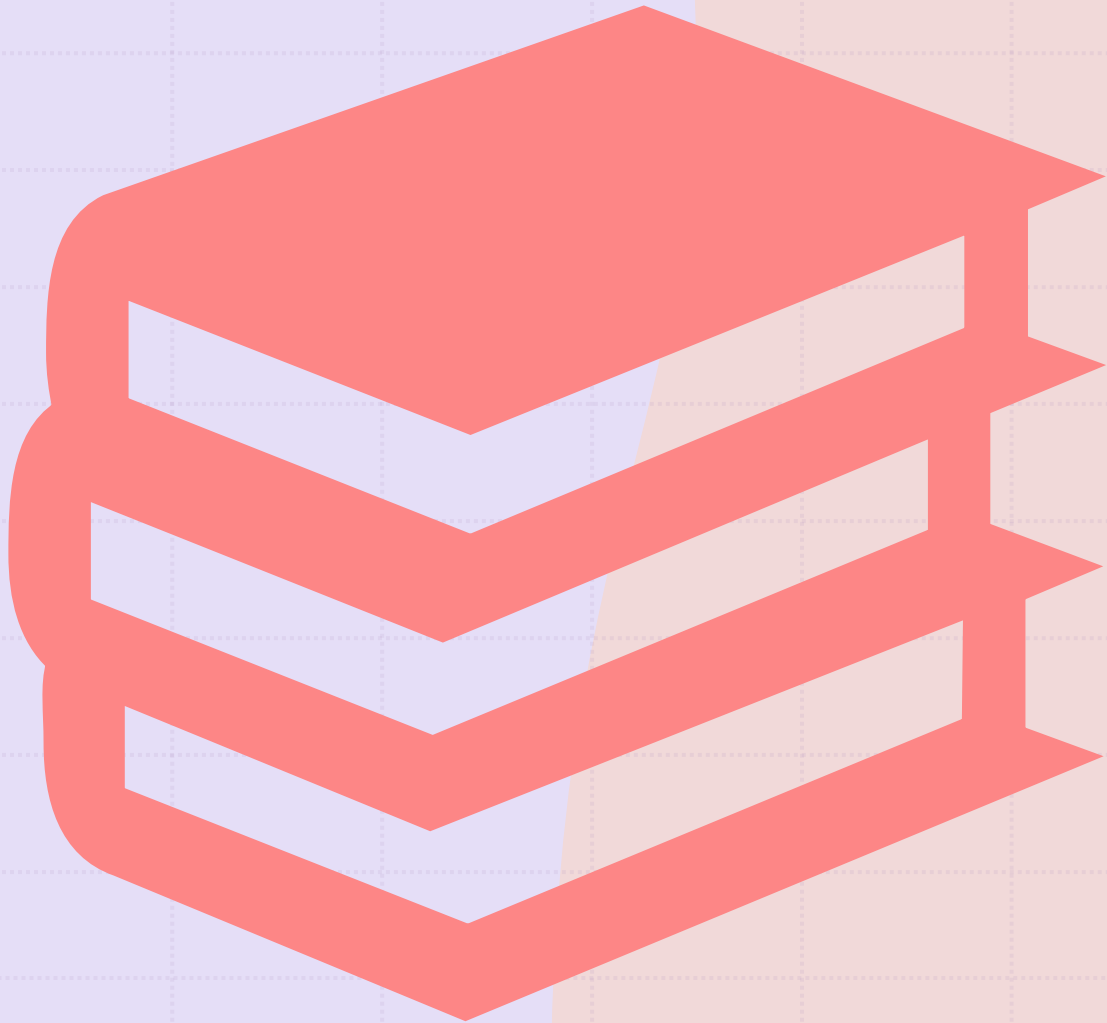


Let's Review

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Annotated Bibliography



The purpose of an annotated bibliography is to provide a summary and evaluation of your sources to inform the reader about the relevance and significance of the sources used in research.

Research Question

A research question is an open-ended question that your annotated bibliography should answer.

Research questions should be clear and concise but should not limit your ability to merit a detailed answer.

Research Question: Should police officers be required to wear body cameras?



Thesis Statement

A thesis statement is an answer to your research question and is a claim (opinion, proposition, or judgment) that your research should support with evidence (reasons, facts, examples, statistics, etc.).

A thesis statement is restricted, unified, and specific.

A thesis statement “is not an announcement of the subject” and “is not a statement of absolute fact” (Skwire and Skwire 5-6).

Thesis: Police officers should be required to wear body cameras.



Research Question: Should police officers be required to wear body cameras?

Thesis: Police officers should be required to wear body cameras.

Topic: police officers

Claim: should be required to wear body cameras (argument, opinion, or stance)

Reason: because police homicides will significantly decrease in the Black community (answers the "Why?" or the "How?" question) (The reason statement in a thesis could begin with subordinating conjunctions such as because, since, although, and unless; conjunctive adverbs such as however, thus, hence, and therefore; or coordinating conjunctions such as so)

Primary Purpose: to persuade the reader that your thesis is valid.

Other Thesis Structures

It is time to close down our space program.

Parents ought to participate more in the education of their children.

The United Nations should be given more peace-keeping powers.

The worst problem of the American auto industry is unfair competition from foreign countries.

Drug addition has caused a significant increase in violent crimes.

Drug addition has caused a significant increase in violent crimes in the home, at school, and on the streets.

James Joyce's *Ulysses* helped create a new way for writers to deal with the unconscious by utilizing the findings of Freudian psychology and introducing the techniques of literary stream of consciousness.

Source: These examples were taken directly from *Writing with a Thesis: A Rhetoric and Reader* by Skwire and Skwire 6-8).

Weak Verbs & Strong Verbs

Weak verbs: *might, *could, *can, *may, maybe, is, mentions, says, writes about, believes, thinks, etc. (*modal verbs express possibility)

Other words to avoid when writing an argument: always, never, all, every, really, very, perhaps, possibly, in my opinion, etc.

Strong verbs: acknowledge, add, affirm, agree, argue, assert, challenge, claim, contend, deny, emphasize, exemplify, explain, expose, insist, refute, maintain, negate, substantiate, support the view that, validate, etc.

Conduct Scholarly Research & Annotate

Sources:

- ensure that your reputable (credible) sources support the claim you have made in your thesis
- print your sources and annotate them
- see the “How to Annotate a Journal Article” handout on the University Writing Center website

Annotated Bibliography Structure

Bibliography/Citation: MLA, APA, Chicago Style, IEEE, etc.

Annotation: indent first line (follow your professor's instructions)

Summary: a brief statement of a source's main arguments, points, findings, and conclusions that supports your thesis and answers your research question and that contains your own words

Evaluation: an assessment of the value, quality, or effectiveness of a source based on your thesis and research question—discuss gaps in the sources—do not use sources that do not support your thesis or answer your research question

If you use sources that oppose your claim, discuss their credibility, validity, objectivity, and accuracy.

Assessment: a detailed examination of your topic that involves breaking your topic down into components, exploring its relationships, and interpreting their meaning to reach a deeper understanding of your topic

Reflection: thoughtful consideration of your learning process that involves analyzing the effectiveness and relevance of your source to your research

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 in a close study of government documents, as well as his own research* as an *extensively-published policy analyst*, to explain Canadian child benefit programs. He outlines some fundamental assumptions supporting the belief that all society members should contribute to the upbringing of children. His comparison of child poverty rates in a number of countries is a useful wake-up to anyone assuming the Canadian society is doing a good job of protecting children. Battle pays particular attention to the National Child Benefit (NCB), arguing that it did not deserve to be 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, *she* 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 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.**

Summary of the argument and/or findings

How this work supports your research

Citation contains a 0.5 inch hanging indentation

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

MLA Style → Faulkner-Springfield, Shirley E. and Robert Smith. “The Making of Robert Smith’s Physical and Spiritual Selves.” *What My Village Did for Me: The Robert Smith Story. As Told to Dr. Shirley E. Faulkner-Springfield*. Kindle Direct Publishing, 11 May 2024.

APA Style → Faulkner-Springfield, S. E., & Smith, R. (2024). “The making of Robert Smith’s physical and spiritual selves.” *What my village did for me: The Robert Smith story. As told to Dr. Shirley E. Faulkner-Springfield*. Kindle Direct Publishing.

Chicago Style → Faulkner-Springfield, Shirley E., and Robert Smith. “The Making of Robert Smith’s Physical and Spiritual Selves.” In *What My Village Did for Me: The Robert Smith Story. As told to Dr. Shirley E. Faulkner-Springfield*, 3-20. Kindle Direct Publishing, 2024.

IEEE Style → [1] S. E. Faulkner-Springfield and R. Smith: “The Making of Robert Smith’s Physical and Spiritual Selves,” in *What My Village Did for Me: The Robert Smith Story. What My Village Did for Me: The Robert Smith Story, As told to Dr. Shirley E. Faulkner-Springfield*. Kindle Direct Publishing, 2024, pp. 3-20.

MLA Style Center <https://style.mla.org/>

APA Style <https://apastyle.apa.org/>

See IEEE Style: IEEE Journal Center <https://journals.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/your-role-in-article-production/ieee-editorial-style-manual/> and IEEE Reference Style Guide and https://journals.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/IEEE_Reference_Guide.pdf

Questions?

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