

APA Format for Annotated Bibliographies

Updated for 5th edition

For an annotated bibliography, use standard APA format for the citations, then add a brief abstract for each entry, including:

- 2 to 4 sentences to summarize the main idea(s) of the item, and
- 1 or 2 sentences to relate the material to your research topic and/or to evaluate the material.

The formatting for this sample bibliography is modeled on the annotated examples in the APA Publication Manual, 5th edition, pp. 370-375.

Basic APA Style Format for an Annotated Bibliography

Format your citations in the same manner as for a normal reference list, then follow these instructions for adding an annotation.

1. Double space the entire bibliography, including within the citations and annotations.
2. **Hanging Indents** are required for citations in the bibliography, as shown below. That is, the first line of the citation starts at the left margin. Subsequent lines of the citation are indented 4 spaces.
3. At the end of the citation, press the **Return Key** to drop down to the next line (double spaced). Do not add a blank line.
4. The annotation is indented as a block, 2 additional spaces.
5. The right margin is the normal right margin of your document.
6. In a long bibliography, organize your entries by topic, such as "Multiple Intelligences". See below.

Sample Annotated Bibliography

Multiple Intelligences

Armstrong, T. (1994). *Multiple intelligences in the classroom*. Alexandria, VA:

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Armstrong describes each of seven intelligences identified by Howard Gardner. He offers an informal checklist for identifying personal strengths in the intelligences and suggests classroom applications. This book is a valuable tool for teachers at any level, with concrete suggestions for classroom applications.

Checkley, K. (1997, September). The first seven . . . and the eighth: A conversation with Howard Gardner. *Educational Leadership*, 55, 8-13.

In this interview, Gardner discusses criteria for determining the intelligences, highlights the Naturalist Intelligence, and explodes a number of myths about multiple intelligences theory. He distinguishes between learning styles and multiple intelligences. This distinction has helped me in my teaching, looking at how children respond to different learning situations.

Davis, R. (1991). *Learning how to learn: Technology, the seven multiple intelligences and learning*. Paper presented at the Spring CUE Conference, Palm Springs, CA, May 11, 1991.

(ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED338214)

Davis reviews a number of educational software programs to support learning through the seven multiple intelligences. He uses Snooper Troops as an example and enumerates activities that highlight each of the intelligences. Although the activities

for musical intelligence are weak, I have used this software in conjunction with songwriting to list the clues musically.

Gardner, H. (Writer), & DiNozzi, R. (Producer/Director). (1996). *MI: Intelligence, understanding and the mind* [Motion picture]. Los Angeles: Into the Classroom Media.

Gardner presents his theory of multiple intelligences, outlining the original seven as well as the eighth, Addressing these intelligences in the classroom gives more students access to profound understandings rather than mere factual knowledge. I enjoyed seeing Gardner "in person" and found new insight into the issues of learning for understanding.

Harvard Project Zero. (2000). *Project Summit: Schools using multiple intelligence theory*.

Retrieved September 27, 2001, from <http://pzweb.harvard.edu/sumit/>

This site is created by Howard Gardner's research group at Harvard. It's purpose is to "identify, document, and promote effective implementations of MI". It identifies and describes schools that have successfully implemented MI theory. The site also explains "Compass Points" -- principles common to these schools -- as well as MI Theory. This site offers outstanding models for teachers wishing to apply MI theory in their classrooms.

For more citation examples see: [Examples of APA Format for Citing Resources](#)

Bibliography

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*(5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.