AP Biology

Outbreak Assignment

Annotated Bibliography Tips

General Tips:

- Use MLA formatting
- Use the following websites for guidelines on how to write an annotated bibliography:
  1. Cornell University:
     http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/research/skill28.htm
  2. Purdue University:
     http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/
  3. Duke University—Advanced Search Techniques:
     http://library.duke.edu/services/instruction/libraryguide/advsearch.html

The Process:

1. As you research your assigned bacteria or virus, be sure to keep track of your references.
2. Using NoodleTools or the MLA guides (packet, websites), write an MLA-formatted bibliographic entry for each source.
3. Read each of your sources for comprehension, and then write a summary (the annotation) for each (see questions below). Do not plagiarize the abstract or other parts of the source. That information is the original work of the author or editor—you may not copy it.
4. Compile your annotated bibliography according to MLA format.

Questions to Consider:

1. Who is the author? What are his/her credentials?
2. What sort of publication/source is it?

3. Is the material primary or secondary in nature? Primary sources are the raw material of the research process. Secondary sources are based on primary sources.

4. What type of audience is the author addressing? Is the publication aimed at a specialized or a general audience? Is this source too elementary, too technical, too advanced, or just right for your needs?

5. What is the article about? Summarize the main ideas/findings.

6. How is the source useful to your Outbreak project? (optional)

*DO NOT REVIEW THE ARTICLE. YOU ARE NOT WRITING A BOOK REVIEW OR EDITORIAL!* 

Happy Searching!

Example:


This article, written by researcher Bruce Brasell, studies the history of censorship in a small town, which appeared to defy the patterns of surrounding towns. The author has also written several other media-related essays. This article first appeared in *Film History* in 2003. The article was secondary, because Brasell cited 111 sources within his footnotes. The article was written with the purpose to inform a rather acute audience of the details of film censorship, as opposed to the broad national level of censorship. This article explained the small town values of Mobile, Alabama, and was useful in seeing censorship in all levels of government.