The Annotated Bibliography

What is it?
1. A bibliography is a list of sources used in researching a topic. Includes the author(s), title, publisher, place, and year published.
2. An annotated bibliography contains all this and a summary and/or evaluation of each source.

What does it do?
1. Offers more information (when beginning to write).
2. Stretches writing and thinking through:
   • Summary: the main arguments, point of the piece, topics covered.
   • Paraphrase: (in your own words) ideas of what the book or article is about.
   • Evaluate: Tell whether it is useful, how it compares with (works with) other sources, reliability of information, whether the source is biased or objective, the goal of the source.
   • Reflection: Does it fit into your research? How? Shape your argument? Can you use this resource? How? Did it change your thinking about your topic? How?

Why do it: What are influences on reading and writing?
Reading:
1. Forces closer reading and study of texts
2. Helps students see where their ideas and research fit what has been done
Writing:
1. Write-to-learn exercise
2. Thesis statement development
3. Summary
4. Reflection
5. Paraphrase
6. Thinking: assessment and evaluation force deep thinking to form opinion
7. Organization

Adapted from Perdue Wise Owl

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