A guide to the annotated bibliography!

Definitions:
Annotated: this means a summary of information

Bibliography: this is a list of resources with information about the author, time and place of publication

What is an annotated bibliography?
An annotated bibliography is essentially a bibliography. You still need to provide all the details about authors, time and place of publication that you would in a normal bibliography. Don’t forget, either that you need to organise a bibliography in alphabetical order.

The difference is, for each source used, you need to provide a brief discussion about the source.

What do I need to do?

Explain the author’s aims or objectives in producing the source of information

Summarise the main ideas or arguments

Identify any conclusions made by the author

Have a point of view about the strengths and limitations of the source and use an argument to support this view

Present our view or reaction to the source.

Why create an annotated bibliography?

Basically, a bibliography provides extra information about the resource or source of information you have used for your assignment. Your teacher will then use the annotated information to decide how well you have read, understood and communicated this information.

By using this process, either to create an annotated bibliography or to help with finding your own ideas on the subject, you can really pull apart a resource and use it for your own purposes. This means you use other people’s facts and opinions to support your own point of view and argument.

This helps you understand the information you are using instead of just reading it.

It is a great skill to learn as it can help you with any assignment, essay, report, oral presentation or any other learning you may undertake.

It is also a great way to help you learn how to paraphrase!