

## Tips for Annotated Bibliography

### **When citing a source:**

- Separate primary and secondary sources
- If you have more than fifty sources it might help viewers if you separate the primary and secondary source lists by type of source as well
- Be consistent with the visual layout of your information as well as the style (MLA, Chicago) that you use
- Leave space in between the citation and the annotation
- It is helpful if the citation is on the same page with the entire annotation – if the page's end splits the annotation, move the whole thing to the next page

### **When writing an annotation:**

- The purpose of the annotation is to provide information about your research process, not to provide analysis to circumvent the word count. Each annotation must be no more than two or three sentences.
- The annotation should explain how you used the source and how the source helped you to understand the topic.
- Emphasis on concepts under NHD's measure of Historical Quality (context, balance, accuracy, etc.) will help judges identify your depth of work
- It is okay to use first person pronouns (one of the only places, aside from your process paper)
- Word variety is the key to maintaining audience interest
- Use complete sentences and proofread

Visit the Annotated Bibliography page of the NHD website at [nhd.org/annotated-bibliography](http://nhd.org/annotated-bibliography) for suggestions and examples.