Inspired by MadLibs, this is *one* method of writing source annotations for your bibliography.

An annotation should explain to your reader -- that is, your teacher and your librarian -- why this is the *best* source for your research. Writing the annotation tells you where to use the source in your paper and how much weight to give it.

You are not limited to this sentence structure or these words. They are suggestions.

Always use complete sentences.
Always use the present tense, even for interviews.
Use the third person only. Never use “I,” “me,” or “my.” Describe the source.
Use only the person’s last name.

**Example 1:**

_________________, a ____________, gives a ___________________

(Last name) (authority) (currency)
(noun or descriptive phrase)

__________________ , __________________ that ________________.

(scope) (thesis) (thesis restatement)
(noun) (verb: gerund form) (phrase)

**Example 2:**

A ____________, ___________ ____________________

(authority) (Last name) (thesis)
(noun or descriptive phrase) (verb: present tense)

__________________ in this _______________ ________________.

(thesis restatement) (currency) (scope)
(phrase) (adjective) (noun)

**Word Banks**

**Authority Nouns**

- professor at...
- author of...
- journalist for...
- scientist of...
- active
- participant for $X$ years in...

**Currency Adjectives**

- new
- cutting-edge
- recent
- somewhat older
- older
- out-of-date
- undated

**Scope Nouns**

- report
- study
- newspaper
- article
- journal article
- magazine
- article
- interview
- blog post
- encyclopedia
- article

**Thesis Verbs: gerunds**

- arguing
- asserting
- confirming
- contesting
- covering
- debating
- describing
- disputing
- favoring
- suggesting
Annotating the Personal Interview

Personal, unpublished interviews *never* have titles. Yes, I know your narrative has a title, but your source is not is your narrative write-up, but rather it is the interview itself.

The reason you chose your interviewee is their authority.

**Formatting the Annotated Bibliography**

The bibliography will have its own page, with the title “Annotated Bibliography” centered at the top of the page.

The bibliography will be double-spaced.

Each entry of one MLA citation and three sentences will be its own paragraph. The first line of the entry will be left aligned; all other lines will be indented ½ inch from the left margin. Use the sliders on the ruler.

Entries will be in alphabetical order by the first word of the entry, disregarding “a,” “an,” and “the.”

---

**Currency Adjectives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practicing</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Retired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note: Currency adjectives describe the person’s role in the field *now*.

**Interview Verbs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaks</th>
<th>Discusses</th>
<th>Outlines</th>
<th>Describes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

[Example entry]


---

RP 10/2014