SUMMARY

For each source listed, you will begin with a summary of the information you found in that specific source. The summary section gives your reader an overview of the important information from that source.  **Remember that you are focusing on a source's method and results, not paraphrasing the article's argument or evidence.**

The questions below can help you produce an appropriate, scholarly summary:

* What is the topic of the source?
* What actions did the author perform within the study and why?
* What were the methods of the author?
* What was the theoretical basis for the study?
* What were the conclusions of the study?

Remember, a summary should be **similar** to an abstract of a source and written in past tense (e.g. "The authors found that…" or "The studies showed…"), but it should not **be** the source's abstract. **Each summary should be written in your own words.**

**Critique/Analysis**

After each summary, your annotations should include a critique or analysis of each source. In this section, you will want to focus on the strengths of the article or the study (the things that would make your reader want to read this source), but do not be afraid to address any deficiencies or areas that need improvement. The idea of a critique is that you act as a critic—addressing both the good and the bad.

In your critique/analysis, you will want to answer some or all of the following questions (taken from the [KAM Guidebook](http://catalog.waldenu.edu/mime/media/7/648/KAM_Guide_Sept2009.pdf)):

* Was the research question well framed and significant?
* How well did the authors relate the research question to the existing body of knowledge?
* Did the article make an original contribution to the existing body of knowledge?
* Was the theoretical framework for the study adequate and appropriate?
* Has the researcher communicated clearly and fully?
* Was the research method appropriate?
* Is there a better way to find answers to the research question?
* Was the sample size sufficient?
* Were there adequate controls for researcher bias?
* Is the research replicable?
* What were the limitations in this study?
* How generalizable are the findings?
* Are the conclusions justified by the results?
* Did the writer take into account differing social and cultural contexts?

**Application**

Finally, the last part of each annotation should justify the source's use and address how the source might fit into your own research. Consider a few questions:

* How is this source different than others in the same field or on the same topic?
* How does this source inform your future research?
* Does this article fill a gap in the literature?
* How would you be able to apply this method to your area of focus or project?
* Is the article universal?

First person may be appropriate to use in an Application paragraph of the annotated bibliography, but doing so will depend on what aspects of the article you are discussing and faculty preferences. For example, if you are discussing how the article is applicable to your research project, first person may be appropriate. If you are talking about how the article relates to the literature or field as a whole, first person may not be appropriate. In all cases, be sure to follow our guidance on [appropriate use of first person](http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/scholarlyvoice/first).