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Literature Review:
THE STEPS TO WRITING A PARTIAL ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

For each article you need to write a partial annotated bibliography. In writing a 'partial' annotated bibliography you are not sharing your opinion on the topic with your reader. Instead you are providing a synthesis of the article, which includes identifying the author's argument, as well as the research and findings that support the author's argument. The following questions/guidelines should help you in writing your annotated bibliographies:

- 1. WHAT IS THE AUTHOR'S ARGUMENT?** Introduce the article and the authors' argument. (Remember that sometimes you need to synthesize the authors' argument, the authors will not come out and just state their argument).
- 2. HOW IS THE AUTHOR SUPPORTING THIS ARGUMENT?** Describe whether the authors' argument is a result of:
 - a.** Data that the authors (themselves) collected. If the authors collected data, you need to provide information about how that data was collected. So, for example:
 - i.** Who participated in the study? Did children, teachers, parents, etc. participate in the study?
 - ii.** What did the participants (the children, teachers, or parents) have to do to be part of the study? Were they observed? Did they have to complete a test? Did they have to complete a survey?
 - iii.** What were the conclusions? What were the findings?
 - b.** The authors surveying the literature. If the authors are surveying the literature then they have essentially read through a bunch of different articles and are constructing an opinion around the topic. This is essentially what you are doing in your literature review. Similar to you, these authors did not go out and collect data themselves to support their argument,
 - c.** The authors want to provide information to a parent or teacher could use in the classroom. (Young Children is often a journal that is written in this way)

The following sentence frames can help you begin to write your partial annotated bibliography.

- a.** FIRST SENTENCE: In the article, *Interactive Writing in a Primary Classroom*, Button et al. (1996) argues ... (THIS IS WHERE YOU SYNTHESIZE THE AUTHOR'S ARGUMENT. THIS IS YOUR TOPIC SENTENCE.)
- b.** SECOND SENTENCE: This article ...
 - i.** is a literature review investigating ...
 - ii.** reports on data gathered from an empirical study ...
 - iii.** provides information on reading development (XXXXX) for teachers or parents.
- c.** THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, etc. SENTENCE S
 - i.** This is where you explain how the author is supporting the argument. Look above for more specific questions on how to guide this portion of writing the partial annotated bibliography.



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