



Teacher Lesson Plan Idea

Writing Annotated Bibliographies in MLA Style

FRAMEWORK(S): Depending upon book chosen, a variety of frameworks from the ADE strands listed below would be covered.

Geography	1. Students shall analyze the geographical regions of Arkansas.
Early Arkansas	2. Students shall analyze Arkansas' pre-territorial periods.
	3. Students shall analyze the significant contributions of early explorers.
Territorial Period to Statehood	4. Students shall analyze the factors related to statehood.
Secession to <i>Reconstruction</i>	5. Students shall analyze the cause and effects of the Civil War on Arkansas.
<i>Reconstruction</i> through <i>Progressive Era</i>	6. Students shall analyze political, social and economic changes in Arkansas.
World War I and the 1920s	7. Students shall analyze the political, social and economic growth in Arkansas.
Great Depression	8. Students shall evaluate the effects of the Great Depression on Arkansas.
World War II to Present	9. Students shall analyze the effects of World War II and other events upon the modernization of Arkansas.

GRADE LEVEL(S): Designed for 9th, but could be used in 7- 8.

TASK: To learn about the geography, history, politics, settlement, economics, culture, people, struggles, successes and impact of Arkansas through historical fiction, biographies and other literary works by Arkansas authors or set in Arkansas.

APPROXIMATE TIME: 4 weeks, in and outside of class

MATERIALS: reading book from AR Fiction list (attached), paper, printer and computer

PROCEDURE: To complete this assignment students must:

*choose a book from the AR collection in the school library

*read the chosen book in its entirety

*type the assignment in black ink

*respond in the exact format detailed below

***write ONLY in your own words**

*discuss and support your opinion of how the book/info you read had a positive or negative, or both, impact on/in Arkansas or references Arkansas specifically in any 3 of the following ways:

~geographic region

~state image/reputation

~tourism

~politics

~economy

~religion

~military

~intellectual property (ideas, original thoughts, books, etc)

~technology

~socially (arts, communities, etc)

To support your opinion of how the content of the book reflects on AR (in a positive or negative way, or both) you must cite at least 2 examples from the book with page numbers.

Annotated bibliographies offer readers information beyond the title and date and help him or her to determine whether or not to read a particular work as it pertains to his or her interests. They also demonstrate that you have read critically and can express yourself **succinctly (in a few words, briefly)**.

An annotated bibliography summarizes content and may evaluate the author, but is NOT a book blurb (please don't write "everyone should read this amazing book"). **It should demonstrate your thorough understanding of the text** and any insight you had into information, including your opinion on the impact to Arkansas. It must be 100% IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

We will use MLA style for our bibliographies. Most of your books will follow the following form. Note the punctuation. The book title can be underlined or *italicized*.

Author's Last Name, First Name. Title. City of Publisher: Name of Publisher, Date Published. Number of pages.

Examples of Annotated Bibliographies for Fiction

Abraham, Patricia. Arkansas, My Childhood Home. New York: Riverhead, 1998. 221 pages.

Abraham has created a disturbing tale of racism in Arkansas during the 1930s. Told from the viewpoint of Johnathan Simms, a ten-year-old white boy who hopes to befriend the black children of the Walters family. This is the story of a rainy day, an overloaded bus, and the fate of its passengers after the driver has ordered the black travelers off to make room for late-coming whites. Looking at the injustices faced by blacks on a daily basis, all rolled up into one afternoon, drives home the overwhelming effects of racism with strong force. This is an angry book, filled with examples of the insults and injuries to which the African-American characters are subjected in the 1930 South.

Johnathan, the only white character to acknowledge this unfairness, is brought to task by his father for "snivelin'" after the Logans (p.106). The book's critical moment is when a terrible accident occurs in which the bus crashes off a bridge, killing the passengers. When Johnathan asks a black rescuer how such a thing could happen, he is told, "the Lord works in mysterious ways." (p. 189). This is a disturbing explanation, not for its suggestion that the white passengers are being punished for the sins of their race, so much as for the possibility that the black characters were saved because they were kept off the bus in the beginning.

This book shows the negative aspects of past racism in AR, and the south, and affected the state socially (culture) and the state's image and reputation, making outsiders think all Arkansans were/are small-minded racists. This could have affected our state's economy by reducing the number of tourists who visited and making it appear as though we were backwards and living in the past.

Book List:

Many of these titles are available in the school library or public library or can be purchased in a local bookstore or ordered on-line.

Arkansas Fiction - 7th - 9th Grades

- Ellis. *The Hunters of the Ozark*
- Gilchrist. *The Annunciation*
- Giles, Janice H. *Plum Thicket - series*
- Greene, B. *I've Already Forgotten Your Name, Phillip Hall*
- Greene. *Summer of My German Soldier*
- Grisham, J. *A Painted House*
- Hall. *The Solitary*
- Harris, Charlaine. *Shakespeare's Trollop*
- Hess, Joan. *Muletrain to Maggody - series*
- Hickman. *Fallen Angels*
- McFadden, B. *Sugar*
- McNichols. *Falling From Grace*
- Medearis. *Big Doc's Girl*
- Nehring. *A Treasure to Die For*
- Nehring. *A Valley to Die For*
- Nehring. *A Wedding to Die For*
- Reynolds, April. *Knee Deep In Wonder*
- Thomason, L.B. *Liberating Paris*