

Arizona College Prep - Erie
Honors Science and Technical Writing Summer Reading

Selection: “The Importance of Writing Skills in Tech-Related Fields” by Theresa MacPhail

[Click Here for Article](#)

And an article of your choosing from *The Atlantic* under the sections of Science or Technology

Assignment:

Students are required to read and annotate the class article. Students will write a rhetorical precis for the class article due August 9th to TII. Students will write an annotated bibliography for the article of their choosing due August 9th to TII.

Specific Instructions:

- APA formatting
- Annotate/highlight/sticky note the article for the guided reading questions to discuss in class
- Follow the precis template
- Follow the annotated bibliography template
- Upload to [Turn It In](#)

Rhetorical Precis

Write a rhetorical precis for the class article. Utilize the following rhetorical precis template:

(S1) In the (type of text) _____ “(title if text has one) _____” (name of speaker) _____, (appositive phrase about speaker) _____ (strong verb, see list below) _____ **that** (state the main idea or argument) _____

(S2) According to _____,

(S3) _____ supports this claim by first _____.

(S4) Then, _____ makes a connection _____.

(S5) Toward the end of the text, _____, (strong verb) _____.

(S6) _____ purpose is to _____ In order to / so that

(S7) _____ establishes a _____ tone _____.

(S8) _____ audience, _____ message _____.

(S9) This work is significant because, (author) _____.

(S10) _____ addresses _____.

Rhetorical verbs for sentence one: claims, asserts, argues, implies, insinuates, illustrates, establishes, defines, advocates, affirms, demonstrates, proposes, purports, specifies, infers.

EXAMPLE:

(S1) In the article “Job One: Tax Code Rewrite,” William O’Keene, an author who cares about tax reform, argues **that** the Obama Administration should rewrite the tax code in order to reduce the unemployment rates. (S2) According will O’Keene, the US needs “systematic reforms to the

tax code and regulatory policy.” (S3) He supports this claim by first explaining the results of Obama’s new stimulus bill. (S4) Then, the author makes a connection between the last major tax rewrite in 1986 to another in 2005. (S5) Toward the end of the text, O’Keene challenges the president’s top priorities of reducing the unemployment rate. (S6) O’Keene’s purpose is to persuade people that Obama’s stimulus tax bill will not help the economy **SO THAT** they will vote against the bill.

(S7) O’Keene establishes a formal tone for those who are concerned with Obama’s stimulus bill.

(S8) Although he writes for an adult audience, thirteen-year olds can understand his message.

(S9) This work is significant because O’Keene challenges the Obama Administration to rethink their priorities. (S10) Specifically, he addresses how a new stimulus bill will affect business, unemployment, and the economy.

Annotated Bibliography: Write an annotated bibliography for an article you choose to read from *The Atlantic*. This article needs to come from the Science or Technology section. Be sure to utilize APA formatting style.

Annotated Bibliography

An **annotated bibliography** is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief (100-150 words) descriptive paragraph, the **annotation**. The purpose of the **annotation** is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy/validity, and quality of the sources cited. You can also consider the following when writing your annotation:

- Main focus or purpose of the work
- Reason for obtaining the information (what purpose did it serve? what question were you answering?)
- Intended audience for the work
- Usefulness or relevance to your research topic (or why it did not meet your expectations)
- Special features of the work that were unique or helpful
- Background and credibility of the author
- Conclusions or observations reached by the author
- Conclusions or observations reached by you

Annotated Bibliography Example

Miller, A. (2012). Minecraft in the Classroom. *Edutopia*. George Lucas

Educational Foundation. Retrieved from

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/minecraft-in-classroom-andrew-miller>

Written by a former classroom teacher now university professor, this article holds considerable credibility with me. Although the article was lengthy, Miller employed helpful text features to guide his readers. He included charts, graphs, and a bulleted “How To” guide for teachers looking to quickly implement his ideas in their own classrooms. Initially, my research focused on the “gameification” of education and how teachers can implement gaming techniques (e.g. themes, symbols, icons, structure, etc.) in order to engage students (and modernize old literary works that come off as antiquated and outdated). But after coming across Miller’s article, my research pivoted to encompass the benefits of using Minecraft in the classroom. This article was a great jumping off point for where my research ended up taking me. This article also included fact-checked and peer-reviewed data from the National Education Association and the federal Department of Education.