

ANNOTATION VERBS

Verbs to use in place of “said/says” when creating annotations

When using quotations or writing papers and bibliographies, many of us struggle to find other verbs for “says”. However, word choice and language variety are important factors to consider when writing. Below is a list of verbs that can be used for annotations, citations, or other places in writing where you find yourself searching for words. They are not all synonyms, and they all carry different connotations, but they do offer some variety for the words many of us use too often. For more information, try James L. Harner’s book *On Compiling an Annotated Bibliography*.

Accepts	Cites	Deplores	Follows	Postulates	Reveals
Adapts	Claims	Derives	Gives	Praises	Reviews
Addresses	Classifies	Describes	Glosses	Presents	Scrutinizes
Adds	Collects	Details	Groups	Presumes	Seeks
Adduces	Commemorates	Determines	Guides	Prints	Sees
Advises	Commends	Develops	Highlights	Probes	Shows
Advocates	Comments	Differentiates	Hints	Profiles	Sketches
Agrees	Compares	Disagrees	Hypothesizes	Proposes	Sorts
Aims	Compiles	Disassociates	Identifies	Protests	Specifies
Allies	Complains	Discerns	Illuminates	Provides	Speculates
Allows	Concentrates on	Discounts	Illustrates	Puts forward	States
Analyzes	Concerns	Discusses	Includes	Questions	Stresses
Annotates	Concludes	Disputes	Indexes	Quotes	Studies
Announces	Concurs	Distinguishes	Indicates	Raises	Suggests
Applies	Confirms	Divides	Inquires	Reassesses	Summarizes
Argues	Conjectures	Documents	Interprets	Rebuts	Supplements
Ascertains	Considers	Doubts	Interviews	Recalls	Supports
Ascribes	Construes	Draws	Introduces	Recommends	Surmises
Asks	Contains	Elaborates	Investigates	Reconstructs	Surveys
Asserts	Contends	Elucidates	Laments	Records	Synthesizes
Associates	Contests	Emends	Lauds	Recount	Takes
Attempts	Continues	Emphasizes	Links	Redefines	Tests
Attributes	Contrasts	Encourages	Lists	Reexamines	Theorizes
Bases	Contributes	Envisions	Maintains	References	Thinks
Belies	Corrects	Equates	Mentions	Refers	Traces
Believes	Covers	Establishes	Notes	Reflects	Tracks
Brings together	Criticizes	Estimates	Observes	Refutes	Translates
Calls	Critiques	Evaluates	Offers	Regards	Treats
Catalogs	Deals	Examines	Opposes	Rejects	Ties
Categorizes	Debates	Excerpts	Outlines	Relates	Underscores
Cautions	Declares	Explains	Parallels	Relegates	Understands
Centers	Deduces	Explicates	Perceives	Repeats	Uses
Challenges	Deems	Explores	Places	Relies	Utilizes
Characterizes	Defends	Expresses	Pleads	Reports	Views
Charts	Defines	Favors	Points out	Reprints	Writes
Chooses	Delineates	Finds	Portrays	Reproduces	
Chronicles	Demonstrates	Focuses	Posits	Responds	