

Issues Affecting Africa Project - Research Overview

Names of Group Members _____

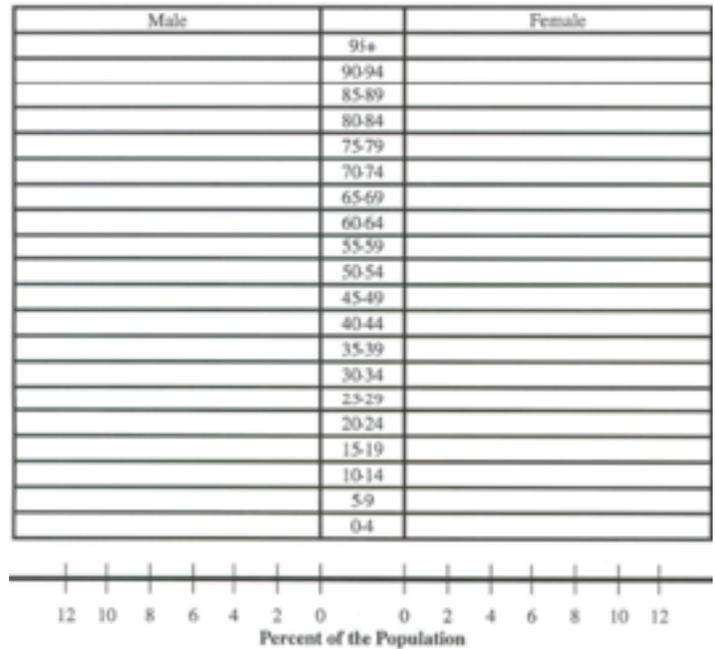
What Issue Have You Chosen to Research _____

On what country will your research focus? _____

Demographic Information

What stage of the Demographic Transition Model is this country? _____

Population Pyramid of this country:



Pick three demographic measures reflecting the impact of the issue you are researching on this country. Briefly explain why you chose this statistic.

Measure 1 _____

Measure 2 _____

Measure 3 _____

Economic/Development Measures

What is the GDP of this country? _____

What is the GNI of this country? _____

Pick three demographic measures reflecting the impact of the issue you are researching on this country. Briefly explain why you chose this statistic.

Measure 1 _____

Measure 2 _____

Measure 3 _____

Sources regarding your topic. (in addition to demographic and economic/development measures)

Before beginning the analysis (conversation) portion of your project, you must first find sources of information that are credible, relevant, and up-to-date. Eventually you will compile **eight** sources in (MLA 8th edition) into an annotated bibliography. Below is a quick check list of how to tell if a source is credible.

When you encounter any kind of source, consider:

1. **Authority** - Who is the author? What is their point of view?
2. **Purpose** - Why was the source created? Who is the intended audience?
3. **Publication & format** - Where was it published? In what medium?
4. **Relevance** - How is it relevant to your research? What is its scope?
5. **Date of publication** - When was it written? Has it been updated?
6. **Documentation** - Did they cite their sources? Who did they cite?

What is an annotated bibliography and why must we complete one?

An annotated bibliography is a list of citations related to a particular topic or theme that include a brief descriptive and/or evaluative summary.

Importance of a Good Annotated Bibliography

In lieu of writing a formal research paper, your professor may ask you to develop an annotated bibliography. You may be assigned to write an annotated bibliography for a number of reasons, including: 1) to show that you understand the literature underpinning a research problem; 2) to demonstrate that you can conduct an effective and thorough review of pertinent literature; or, 3) to share sources among your classmates so that, collectively, everyone in the class obtains a comprehensive understanding of key research about a particular topic. Think of an annotated bibliography as a more deliberate, in-depth review of the literature than what is normally conducted for a research paper.

On a broader level, writing an annotated bibliography can be excellent preparation for conducting a larger research project by allowing you to evaluate what research has already been conducted and where your proposed study may

fit within it. By reading and critically analyzing a variety of sources associated with a research problem, you can begin to evaluate what the issues are and to gain a better perspective on what scholars are saying about your topic. As a result, you are better prepared to develop your own point of view and contributions to the literature.

In summary, a good annotated bibliography...

- Encourages you to think critically about the content of the works you are using, their place within the broader field of study, and their relation to your own research, assumptions, and ideas;
- Provides evidence that you have read and understood your sources;
- Establishes validity for the research you have done and of you as a researcher;
- Gives you an opportunity to consider and include key digital, multimedia, or archival materials among your review of the literature;
- Situates your study and underlying research problem in a continuing professional conversation;
- Provides an opportunity for others to determine whether a source will be helpful for their research; and,
- Could help researchers determine whether they are interested in a topic by providing background information and an idea of the kind of scholarly investigations that have been conducted in a particular area of study.

In addition, writing an annotated bibliography helps you develop skills related to critically reading and identifying the key points of a research study and to effectively synthesize the content in a way that helps the reader determine its validity and usefulness in relation to the research problem or topic of investigation.