Assessment 1 Annotated Bibliography

IQM3002 Research Project and Skills Enhancement

Sample 2026 · Candidate coursework brief

Assessment requirement	Details
Task	An individual annotated bibliography answering the sample research question below.
Response length	1,500 words across three annotations. Full reference entries and supplementary process records are excluded.
Marks and credits	60 raw marks; 5 credits. AO1 Listening 20 marks; AO2 Reading 40 marks.
Conditions	Open-resource coursework with teacher supervision. Level 2 AI Planning.
Dates and submission route	The centre will enter the issue date, deadline and submission route on your cover sheet.

Your research question

To what extent does social media use affect subjective well-being in young adults?

Use this question throughout your annotated bibliography, extended research project, and presentation and viva. The bibliography prepares the evidence base for the project. You do not submit a research proposal for this component.

Your task

Select three academic sources that help you investigate the question. Read and verify each source yourself. Your choices may include peer-reviewed articles, academic books or chapters, and credible academic or specialist institutional research reports. A website address or publication length alone does not establish quality. Evaluate the author, methods, evidence, relevance and limitations.

Write one annotation for each source. Start with its full reference, then explain its purpose and main argument, the relevant research methods and findings, its strengths and limitations, and how you intend to use it in your project. Where a source has no empirical method, evaluate the basis of its argument instead. Distinguish the source’s claims from your own judgement.

Plan around 500 words per annotation to reach the 1,500-word total. Use your own words, cite any quotation or paraphrase, and explain why each source earns a place in the project. Compare relevance and perspectives where helpful. Do not simply reproduce abstracts or source summaries.

Keep evidence of your research

Complete the source record and retain search terms, source checks, drafts and notes. These records support the existing assessment and authentication process; they do not carry separate marks.

How your work is marked

Criterion	Marks	Evidence considered
AO1 Listening – task fulfilment and source validity	20	Academic, credible and relevant source choices; task fulfilment, referencing and academic integrity, considered across the submission.
AO2 Reading – summary, evaluation and use of sources	40	Accurate understanding, critical evaluation, and a clear explanation of each source's relevance to the extended project.

Marks reflect the evidence across the whole submission. AO1 remains 20 marks and AO2 remains 40 marks. AO1 /20 is one holistic judgement across the submission. It considers source validity, task fulfilment and academic integrity. Different source selections and conclusions can be valid when justified by appropriate evidence.

Permitted materials and AI

You may use student-selected academic sources, working notes and source summaries. Keep a source/citation record. Formal citations and references are required; Harvard is recommended. Use a consistent recognised style.

Level 2 AI Planning permits brainstorming, outlining, question development, initial research orientation and limited summaries of sources you have already identified. AI-assisted discovery may identify possible sources, but you must independently evaluate, select, read and verify them. Your submitted analysis, evaluation, interpretation and conclusions must be your own. Check AI outputs, record permitted use and acknowledge it where required.

Submit

Submit the completed cover sheet, three annotations with full references, source record and permitted-AI disclosure where applicable. Use DOCX or PDF unless your centre specifies another accessible format. Include your candidate number and IQM3002_A1_2026S in the filename. Retain an editable copy and drafts.

Before submitting, check the question, word count, source accuracy, citations, required records and file readability. Request any access arrangements through your centre's approved process before assessment.