

This document has two parts. Part 1 shows a sample annotation in the format desired. Part 2 shows my comments about the components of the annotation.

PART 1 SAMPLE ANNOTATION – IN THE DESIRED FORMAT

Prabhu, Maya. "Marketing Treadle Pumps to Women Farmers in India: The IDE India Experience." *Gender and Technology*. Ed. Caroline Sweetman. Oxfam Focus on Gender Series. Oxford, UK: GB, 1998. 25-33.

In her article, Maya Prabhu contends that researchers must incorporate an analysis of gender in the development and distribution of technology. A gender perspective will allow one to recognize that technology is not gender neutral and that it has the potential to challenge power relations. Contrary to the negative affects of technology described by Leonard, Prabhu asserts that technology can be empowering to women when it makes their daily lives easier, reduces their workloads, challenges stereotypical gender roles, and enables women to participate in work usually performed by their male counterparts. Prabhu examines women's entry into the commercial farm sector in India and the attempts made by the International Development Enterprises India (IDE), a non-profit organization, to make technological knowledge and resources accessible to women. Although women in India do influence the decision to use technology, IDE endeavours to expand women's role in the public sphere.

IDE seeks to assist poverty stricken farmers and promote the use of basic, inexpensive, and appropriate technologies for the development and sustainability of India's local economies.

Prabhu illustrates the ideological presuppositions that relegate women to the private sphere and perpetuate the notion that women are technologically inept. Through rural marketing strategies, IDE attempts to target women as customers and deconstruct masculine values. In order to understand the impact of new technologies on women, Prabhu maintains that women must be included and consulted in the design process. As a result of India's female population's low literacy levels and restricted social mobility, IDE must ensure that women are adequately reached. In India, women's use of technology alters their position in the household and transforms the gender division of labour. Through their use of machinery, women make vast contributions to agriculture, learn new skills, generate an income, and have access to non-traditional spheres.

Both Leonard's and Prabhu's texts instruct readers to be aware of women's different experiences with technology. The authors compel readers to acknowledge that women are not a homogeneous entity and that technology and gender are diverse. When discussing technology, it is important to provide a context. Women's use of technology depends on their social, political, cultural, economic, geographical, and historical circumstances. An aspect of technology that should be considered is the economic power to own it. The mere availability of technology does not establish equality. Similarly, both Leonard's and Prabhu's articles challenge the notion that technological innovation leads to progress. Technological changes in the workplace produce both positive and negative outcomes. As the case of India demonstrates, technology does not need to be highly complicated for it to create positive change.

PART 2 SAMPLE ANNOTATION – KRISTA’S NOTES

Highlighted sections in yellow indicate which pieces I’m talking about. [Blue text in square brackets] indicate my comments.

Prabhu, Maya. “Marketing Treadle Pumps to Women Farmers in India: The IDE India Experience.” *Gender and Technology*. Ed. Caroline Sweetman. Oxfam Focus on Gender Series. Oxford, UK: GB, 1998. 25-33. [KSD: The annotation begins with a bibliography of the source. Note here the use of correct bibliographic format. It is not important which particular style you use for this assignment—MLA, Chicago, Turabian, etc.—as long as it is consistent and correct.]

In her article, Maya Prabhu contends that researchers must incorporate an analysis of gender in the development and distribution of technology. A gender perspective will allow one to recognize that technology is not gender neutral and that it has the potential to challenge power relations. [KSD: The previous two sentences identify that we are talking about Prabhu’s article and clearly explain the author’s argument.] Contrary to the negative affects of technology described by Leonard, [KSD: comparision between sources] Prabhu asserts that technology can be empowering to women when it makes their daily lives easier, reduces their workloads, challenges stereotypical gender roles, and enables women to participate in work usually performed by their male counterparts. Prabhu examines women’s entry into the commercial farm sector in India and the attempts made by the International Development Enterprises India (IDE), a non-profit organization, to make technological knowledge and resources accessible to women. Although women in India do influence the decision to use technology, IDE endeavours to expand women’s role in the public sphere.

IDE seeks to assist poverty stricken farmers and promote the use of basic, inexpensive, and appropriate technologies for the development and sustainability of India’s local economies. Prabhu illustrates the ideological presuppositions that relegate women to the private sphere and perpetuate the notion that women are technologically inept. Through rural marketing strategies, IDE attempts to target women as customers and deconstruct masculine values. In order to understand the impact of new technologies on women, Prabhu maintains that women must be included and consulted in the design process. [KSD: Note that throughout the annotation, the reader always knows that this is Prabhu “speaking” – there is no confusion about whether this is Prabhu’s arguments or the author of the annotation] As a result of India’s female population’s low

literacy levels and restricted social mobility, IDE must ensure that women are adequately reached. In India, women's use of technology alters their position in the household and transforms the gender division of labour. Through their use of machinery, women make vast contributions to agriculture, learn new skills, generate an income, and have access to non-traditional spheres. [KSD: Note that this is not merely a description of the article – it pulls out the main ideas and presents them]

Both Leonard's and Prabhu's texts instruct readers to be aware of women's different experiences with technology. [KSD: This section compares themes between authors as requested in the assignment's instructions. Note that the writer of this annotation highlights common elements in the arguments – it is also quite all right to highlight points of debate and divergence between authors, as the writer does in the first paragraph] The authors compel readers to acknowledge that women are not a homogeneous entity and that technology and gender are diverse. When discussing technology, it is important to provide a context. Women's use of technology depends on their social, political, cultural, economic, geographical, and historical circumstances. An aspect of technology that should be considered is the economic power to own it. The mere availability of technology does not establish equality. [KSD: The previous sentences point out course themes, which fulfills the requirement to link the readings to course themes] Similarly, both Leonard's and Prabhu's articles challenge the notion that technological innovation leads to progress. Technological changes in the workplace produce both positive and negative outcomes. As the case of India demonstrates, technology does not need to be highly complicated for it to create positive change.