

- Think about: Why is this case study relevant?
 - Case studies are typically about something that has happened (past tense) but the reason we care is what might happen (future tense)
 - Not only a recitation of the factual content of the study. Should address the “so what?” question (future tense) – why would someone (e.g., your boss) care about this?

Remember: Summary and Critiques

1. Overall topic of the paper (or focus section of the paper)
 - One paragraph summary (yes, it is hard to distill a case study into a single paragraph, but this is important)
2. Key assumptions that were made, and your assessment of them
3. What important missing factors?
 - Not very helpful: “I thought the authors should have discussed or included Topic X and they didn’t
 - Good: “I thought the authors should have discussed or included Topic X because it might have changed the overall conclusion of the paper (in what way)
 - Best: “If the authors had included Topic X, I believe it would have changed to overall conclusion, because _____
4. Your biggest take-away; what did you learn that could be useful in some other avenue of research

No more than 2 pages

Think about:

- What is the fundamental difficulty with predictions?
- What might have been done to better prepare in Tohoku, Japan?
- What governmental policies (local, state, or national) might be influenced by this case study?
 - I.e., what lessons can be applied to the future?