

Reading a research paper

1. Who is/are the author(s) of the article?
2. What is the title of the article?
3. What year was this article published?
4. What are the two to three main things you learned from the introduction?
5. What is one of the articles cited in the introduction? (Refer to it by the authors and the year it was published.)
6. What is the hypothesis?
7. How many participants were in the study?
8. Who were the participants (e.g., college students, infants, etc.)?
9. What was/were the independent variable(s)?
10. What was the dependent variable?
11. What materials were used in the study? Did participants complete a survey, use a computer program, were they interviewed, etc.?
12. Summarize what the participants did.
13. How were the data analyzed (i.e., what statistical analysis was used)? Report the means and standard deviations for each group.
14. Did the author(s) find a significant effect?
15. What did you learn from the figure (graph) in the results section?
16. Was the hypothesis supported?
17. Were the results consistent with the previous literature discussed in the introduction?
18. What can you conclude from this study?
19. Did the author(s) make any suggestions for future investigation? If so, what suggestion was made?
20. How many references were cited in the article?
21. What did you think of the article?
22. Was it an effective study? Do you accept the results? Why or why not?