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RESEARCH CORE-SCIENCE

# HOW TO READ, RESEARCH, & EVALUATE AN ARTICLE

# TIPS FOR READING A RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Read the Abstract



Discover a brief summary of the research question and methods



It may also state the findings



Read several times due to being short and written in dense psychological language



Restate the abstract in your own non-technical language



# READ THE INTRODUCTION

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- The beginning of the article, appearing first after the abstract.
- Contains information about the authors' interest in the research, why they chose the topic, their hypothesis, and methods.
- Sets out the operational definitions and variables.

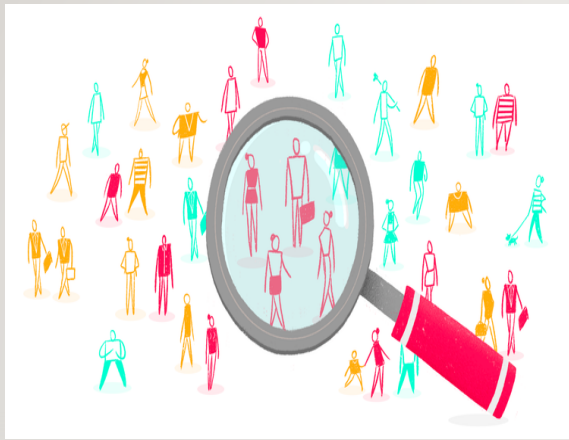
# READ THE DISCUSSION SECTION



Skip over the methods section for the time being.

The discussion section will explain the main findings in great detail and discuss any methodological problems or flaws that the researcher has discovered





# READ THE METHODS SECTION

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Now that you know the results and what the researcher's claims the results mean, you are prepared to read about the Methods.



This section explains the type of research and the techniques and assessment instruments used.

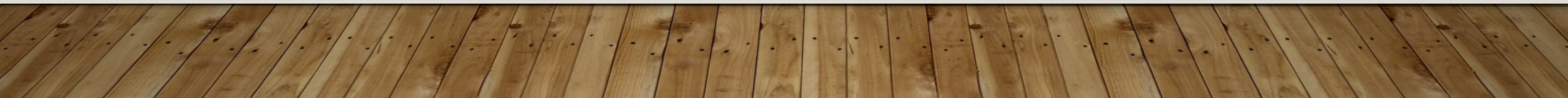


If the researcher uses self-reports and questionnaires, the questions and statements used may be set out either in this section or in an appendix that appears at the end of the report.

# READ THE RESULTS SECTION

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- This is the most technically challenging part of a research report. But you already know the findings (from reading them in the research report).
- This section explains the statistical analysis that led the author to their conclusions.
- This may test your knowledge of statistics, as well as research terms.





# READ THE CONCLUSION

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- The last section of the report (before any appendices) summarizes the findings, but more important for social research, it sets out what the researcher thinks is the value of the research for real-life application and for public policy.
- This section often contains suggestions for future research, including issues that the researcher became aware of in the course of the study.



**THANK  
YOU! 😊**

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**COMMENTS AND  
QUESTIONS**