

## How to read/scan a journal article

*Trying to find suitable journal articles can be very time consuming! Here are some tips to make the process quicker.*

1. **Title:** First read the title to see what the article is about, if it seems like it relates to your topic move onto reading the ...



2. **Abstract:** Gives a summary of the article, can read this to quickly reject articles, if abstract looks promising continue to...



3. **Conclusion:** See if it will add to your research/ argument, if it may be useful move to....



4. **References:** Check to see if the sources are current?

Did the authors base their work on expertise of other researchers?



5. **Scan** through the article: flip through the pages of the article, see how it is organised. Read the **headings**, subheadings, look out for statistics in tables or **charts** and graphs (usually in result section)



6. Go back to **intro:** gives brief summary on previous research done in the area



7. **Closely read** paragraphs/ sections you identified as useful and relevant while scanning, just **skim** the other paragraphs



- 8. Annotate:** Highlight and **add notes** to help remember important ideas, facts and write how you might use this info in your own writing. (Many online libraries have tool such as highlighting, adding comments e.g. adobe)