

### The HowTo Guide for approaching journal articles (primary literature)

1. Read paper in a scan mode- look at abstract, figures/legends, conclusion, and write down what you think the main points/hypotheses the authors were trying to address
2. Read paper again, in full.
3. Read paper to look up details of relevant protocols/analyses they used
4. Often, read paper again (seriously)

Questions you should consider as you are reading the paper what feels like 1,000,000 times:

1. What was the purpose/goal of the study
2. Find the hypothesis/hypotheses and re-phrase it (them) as a "If. . .then. . . statement(s)
3. Do the results support or refute the original hypothesis?
4. Identify/briefly explain the key result that gave you the answer to question 3 above
5. Based on your own examination of the data, do you agree or disagree with the authors?

Why or why not? What are the issues with their analysis/data?

6. Suggest one future experiment the authors could do to as a follow up to this study

**Article Name:**

Keywords:

Main Point of article:

Is there a published summary/review of article?

Self written summary of article:

Questions Remaining after reading:

New vocabulary:

Word

Definition

Figure that best represents main point of paper- why:

Technique:

Question asked in figure 1 (repeat for all figures)

Result:

Technique