

A scientific article review

A scientific article review is written for an audience who is knowledgeable in the subject matter. When writing an article review, you will summarize the main ideas, arguments, positions, and findings, and then critique the article's contributions to the field and overall effectiveness.

- Article reviews present more than just an opinion.
 - An article review only responds to the author's research. It typically does not provide any new research.
 - An article review both summarizes and evaluates the article.
- Your review will be set up in the following parts:

- Summarize the article. Focus on the important points, claims, and information.
- Discuss the positive aspects of the article. Think about what the author does well, good points she makes, and insightful observations.
- Identify contradictions, gaps, and inconsistencies in the text. Find any unanswered questions left in the article.

Begin by looking at the title, abstract, introduction, headings, opening sentences of each paragraph, and the conclusion.

Don't: highlight every paragraph — just the central points.

Do: supplement the most important points with notes or cross-references.

- Connect what you read in the article to your existing knowledge of the topic. Think about things you have discussed in class or other articles you have read. Pay careful attention to the meaning of the article. Make sure you fully understand the article.

Don't: spend time on editing or phrasing. This is just for your own benefit.

Do: write in a clear, logical structure to test your understanding.

- With either method, make an outline of the main points made in the article and the supporting research or arguments.
 - After putting the article in your own words, decide which parts of the article you want to discuss in your review.
 - Review the summary outline to eliminate unnecessary items. Create a list of strengths and weaknesses. Use specific examples and references. Think about the following questions to help you critique and engage with the article:
- What does the article set out to do?
 - What is the theoretical framework or assumptions?
 - Are the central concepts clearly defined?
 - How adequate is the evidence?
 - How does the article fit into the literature and field?
 - Does it advance the knowledge of the subject?
 - How clear is the author's writing?^[7]

Don't: include superficial opinions or your personal reaction.

Do: pay attention to your own biases, so you can overcome them.

The Scheme of writing of the scientific review

Introduction:

Provide background and rationale for conducting the literature review

State the primary objective (s) of the review article

Methods:

Concisely describe reproducible methods for conducting the review (i.e., databases selected, access dates, keywords chosen, criteria for including articles)

Results:

Quantitative mini-review

Synthesize quantitative results in a 'results' section

Descriptive mini-review

Describe key findings (e.g., summarize case studies)

Develop figures and tables that summarize key findings (e.g., trends in publications over time)

Discussion:

Develop a discussion on the key papers and key themes Identified in the review

Suggest applications of the Findings (e.g., management, industry, conservation)

Highlight knowledge gaps

Suggest directions for future research