


Research Articles


Title and _____

- Title
 - Concise description of what they found (Single phrase or sentence)
 - Get the reader's attention
- _____ (120 words or less)
 - Paragraph-long description of *everything*


- "This is why I did what I did"
- Theoretical background
- Literature review
- Builds up to the hypotheses




- “How I obtained my data”
- Participants (WHO)
 - “Who I studied”
- Materials (WHAT)
 - “How I measured my variables”
- Procedure (HOW)
 - “The steps I took to collect the data”




- “Are my hypotheses supported or not?”
- Type of analyses conducted
- Significance of tests (“ p ”)
 - p should be less than 0.05
- Summarized using figures and tables




- “So what? Why is this research important?”
- Implications for the current theory
- Limitations
- Future research




- Alphabetical by first author
 - Gore, J.S., & Lillie, R. A. (2006). Writing a paper. *Journal of Writing*, 3, 45-50.
- Very helpful when looking for other articles to read for your own literature review




- Go to <http://www.library.eku.edu/>
- Click "Databases"
- Type PsycINFO, then "Search"
- Click "PsycINFO" link



- Can limit your search by title, author, key word, date, type of article, etc.
- Provides abstracts
- Number of entries
- Citation count
- Article's references




- May not be available at library
 - Stick with broad journals, not specific ones
 - Look for PDF versions or see impact sheet
- May be difficult to narrow down
 - Limit by date, author, or be more specific
- Lists out-of-date articles
 - Stick to articles from past 10-15 years
 - OR, heavily-cited articles ("Key articles")




Aspects of a good psychological research article

- Presentation of theory and data is:
 - Clear
 - Concise
 - Consistent
 - Organized
- Peer-reviewed
- Novel ideas and/or methodologies




Things To Look For

- Articles in top journals
- Titles and abstracts that are written clearly and concisely
- Articles that have been cited often
- Book chapters that offer an extensive review of the topic



Getting the Article

- PDF Files
 - Go to EKU library homepage
 - Click "Articles", then "Electronic Journals by Title"
 - Enter JOURNAL NAME into search
 - Specify Volume, Issue, and Article
 - Download the file
 - Print the article
 - Can also find PDFs in PsycARTICLES



Getting the Article

- Can't get a PDF?
 - Go to EKU library homepage
 - Click "Books" then enter the JOURNAL NAME in the box
 - Click "Show Library Holdings"
 - Write down the call number and find it on the shelf at the library
 - Ask the Reference Librarian for help if no call number is provided or if it's not on the shelf
