



# Paper #1

# Elements of an Article

- ***Introduction***
  - Why they are conducting this research
  - Previous research on topic (literature review)
  - Hypothesis
- ***Method***
  - How they collected the data
  - Participants, Materials, Procedure
- ***Results***
  - Whether their hypothesis was supported or not
  - Statistical analyses, Tables, Figures
- ***Discussion***
  - Why the results are important (implications)
  - Limitations of current study, ideas for the future

# Grading Criteria

- ***Comprehension***
  - Outline is thorough
  - Report the results correctly in the critique
- ***Methods***
  - Pointing out problems in the methodology, offering solutions
  - Using correct terminology when identifying these elements
- ***Integration across the Course***
  - Draw connections between findings and class/book
  - Some articles will require skipping ahead to later topics
- ***Application and Analysis***
  - Draw connections to other fields and real life
  - Explanation for how they relate
- ***Interpretation and Evaluation***
  - Making an argument in critique, not summarizing again
  - Citing specifics in the article

# Things to Critique in Paper

- ***Ethics***
  - Do the costs outweigh the benefits?
  - Were there any violations of the four ethical elements?
- ***Internal Validity***
  - How do we know which variable causes the other?
  - Possible confounds
- ***External Validity***
  - How much can we generalize this finding?
  - Other people, situations, over time?
- ***Construct Validity***
  - How do we know the measures are accurate?
  - Could the measures be tapping into something else?

# Writing Issues



# Tone

- Avoid first-person pronouns
  - Try not to use “I”, “we”, “our”
  - Refer to “the current study” rather than “I”
- Avoid colloquial phrasing
  - E.g., “...goes hand in hand with...”
- Avoid cryptic language
  - No jargon, say what you mean in English

# Organization

- Synthesizing information
- Logical argument
  - Consistency in argument
  - No contradictions
  - Each paragraph follows from previous one
    - Introductory statement
    - Information to support that statement (citing specifics)
    - Conclusive statement that leads into next paragraph

# Clarity

- Avoid awkward and run-on sentences
  - Read your paper out loud
- Say what you mean in English
  - Passes the “Mom Test”
  - Especially important in the section critiquing the article’s methods

# Surface Features

- Spelling
  - Errors noted as “sp”
- Vocabulary
  - Errors noted as “w.c.” for word choice
- Grammar
  - Errors noted as “gramm”
- Punctuation
  - Errors noted as “punc”
- Capitalization
  - Errors noted as “caps”