

Is This Article Relevant To My Research?

A Guide to Skimming



Step 1

Read the Abstract



The abstract is a summary of the article. By reading this, you can get a sense of the content, the scope of the research, the author's methodology, and the academic level of the article.

Step 2

Read the Conclusion



Authors usually repeat their main ideas and their final findings in the conclusion. This will give you an overview of the article and help determine if it is relevant to your research.

Step 4

Read the First Sentence of Every Paragraph



The first sentence (or topic sentence) will convey the main idea for that paragraph. See something interesting? Read the rest.

Step 3

Read the First Paragraph or the Introduction



This is where an author usually lays out his or her plan for the rest of the article. This can help you determine what the article contributes to the field.

Step 5

The Rest of the Article



Once you have determined if an article is relevant to your research, read more carefully, paying attention to the author's argument and evidence.

To Review:



Abstract



Conclusion



Introduction



Topic Sentences



Whole Article