# **Article Critique**

Writing an article critique is often confused with an article summary where the article's contents are summarized and paraphrased into an essay. Although some summarizing of the article is needed in the introduction, an article critique focuses on the author's writing in such areas as claim (how well its supported) and appeal (how effectively the author presents the material). Think of it this way: you are a movie critic, reviewing a director's choice of script, actors, and graphics so that the audience will know whether the movie is good or not. The critic does not simply tell you what the movie is about but lets you know how the director made it great. In the same way, the writer of an article critique will talk about what the author did to make the article effective or ineffective and gives advice on how it could have been better.

What you gain from the article is only as effective as what you bring to it. Therefore, before reading the article, be sure to have a highlighter and a pen or pencil close by so that when you read something relevant or have a sudden idea, you can write it down or mark it. Always read the article twice. On the second time, make highlights and notes of the following circumstances:

What is the author claiming through the article? Is there more than one claim? Does the author support or contradict his or her own claim? A body paragraph could look like this one below:

• In the article, Spetalnick's main claim seems to be clearly stated in the title "Obama and Syria: The Education of a Reluctant President." This claim, although stated as the title, is not the only claim the author makes in the article. As a matter of fact, it is quite the opposite. As one reads past the first few lines, it is clear that being "reluctant" is not the author's main argument at all. For example, the article states, "Since the war in Syria began, Obama has repeatedly denounced the killing of innocent civilians - more than 100,000 people have already died in the 2-1/2-year conflict - while declaring his determination to avoid getting the United States sucked in." How is this claim supporting the topic of "Education of a Reluctant President?" It does not; that is why the title is misleading.

Why should you believe what the author has to say? Is the author credible? Are the outside sources credible? Did the author provide information about his/herself as well as information about the outside sources?

The critique's introduction can show why the author is or is not credible by examining his/her
background or notoriety. Sometimes, added research about the author is needed to find this
information. There are other ways, however, that an author is believable through the use of credible
outside source such as using a website to support your claim. Following is an example of how to
construct a body paragraph around this issue:

# **How To Critique A Journal Article Sample**

Fred C. Lunenburg, Beverly J. Irby

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How to Critique Journal Articles in the Social Sciences Scott R. Harris, 2022-01-03 Journal articles form the bedrock of social science but they can be unfamiliar and intimidating to students This brief introductory guide helps readers appreciate the rigor and pitfalls of research by comparing it to more ordinary ways of knowing Each chapter focuses on a key aspect of articles demystifying step by step the complexities of social research Harris encourages readers to avoid naivete accepting research findings as simple Truth and cynicism dismissing research as hopelessly flawed and instead adopt a critical perspective that appreciates the strengths and weaknesses of any piece of scholarship A new chapter on research design explores how scientists choose a broad approach to study a topic which impacts subsequent research decisions Exercises throughout allow readers to practice the highlighted techniques in class discussion short assignments or a major writing project Comprehensive yet succinct and accessible the second edition of How to Critique Journal Articles in the Social Sciences equips students with the confidence to read and understand social research for use in their education careers and personal lives How to Critique Journal Articles in the Social Sciences Scott R. Harris, 2013-09-23 This brief introductory book provides readers with a step by step guide to reading and understanding a social science research article The author demonstrates the many strengths of social research including its advantages over ordinary ways of knowing things and at the same time points out that research is inevitably flawed Rather than naively assuming that good research simply produces The Truth or cynically asserting that research is hopelessly biased and futile this book instills in readers a critical perspective one that appreciates the strengths and weaknesses of any piece of scholarship Writina Your Iournal Article in Twelve Weeks, Second Edition Wendy Laura Belcher, 2019-06-07 Wow No one ever told me this Wendy Laura Belcher has heard this countless times throughout her years of teaching and advising academics on how to write journal articles Scholars know they must publish but few have been told how to do so So Belcher made it her mission to demystify the writing process The result was Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks which takes this overwhelming task and breaks it into small manageable steps For the past decade this guide has been the go to source for those creating articles for peer reviewed journals It has enabled thousands to overcome their anxieties and produce the publications that are essential to succeeding in their fields With this new edition Belcher expands her advice to reach beginning scholars in even more disciplines She builds on feedback from professors and graduate students who have successfully used the workbook to complete their articles A new chapter addresses scholars who are writing from scratch This edition also includes more targeted exercises and checklists as well as the latest research on productivity and scholarly writing Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks is the only reference to combine expert guidance with a step by step workbook Each week readers learn a feature of strong articles and work on revising theirs accordingly Every day is mapped out taking the guesswork and worry out of writing There are tasks templates and reminders At the end of twelve weeks graduate students recent PhDs

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