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A brief paper about a scholarly article is called an article summary, which demands a critical reading of that piece. It identifies, explains, and analyses the thesis and supporting arguments in argumentative articles, while for empirical articles, it deals with research questions, methods, findings, and implications. Although short, these summaries are crucial in demonstrating one's reading and writing abilities. Professors assign them to develop essential skills like critical reading, summarizing, and clear writing. Moreover, they introduce students to the conventions of writing in their discipline by requiring a close read of a scholarly article. Common issues arise when students misunderstand the assignment goal, failing to focus on the article itself rather than its topic. To succeed, one must read carefully and closely, using strategies like creating a reverse outline to ensure understanding. The structure of an article summary typically includes a clear introduction, body paragraphs explaining key points, and a concise conclusion. For argumentative articles, body paragraphs focus on supporting arguments and evidence for the thesis, while empirical articles may discuss methods, findings, and connections to predictions. The summary should be focused, clear, and align with assigned topics and organization guidelines. Summarizing a journal article involves distilling its key findings into a concise, focused overview. A successful summary should provide readers with a clear understanding of the article's central theme and significance. Writing a journal article summary is an essential skill for students and researchers alike. To effectively summarize a research study, one must first read the abstract, which provides a brief synopsis of the article's content. However, it's crucial to distinguish between an abstract and a summary, as the former is highly condensed and lacking in detail. Understanding the context of the research is also vital in crafting a well-informed summary. This involves grasping the specific topics or arguments presented by the authors, why they matter, and whether the article responds to existing literature on the subject. By doing so, one can identify key points, quotes, and data to analyze in the summary. To streamline the process, readers may find it helpful to skip directly to the conclusion, which outlines the proposed research's findings and implications. This approach allows for a more comprehensive understanding of the topic, enabling readers to navigate the complexities of the article with greater ease. A crucial step in summarizing an article is identifying its main argument or position. To accomplish this, one should pay close attention to the introduction, where authors typically outline their central ideas. By pinpointing the thesis and main argument, readers can create a more accurate and engaging summary that captures the essence of the research study. As you read an academic journal article, start by identifying the thesis statement, which is often hinted at through words like hypothesis, results, typically, generally, or clearly. Focus on the main argument and connect the rest of the article back to it. In humanities articles, it may be more challenging to pinpoint a clear thesis due to complex abstract ideas. If unclear, try to articulate it based on your understanding of the author's ideas. Analyze the tone and keywords to grasp what they're trying to convey. Scan the argument by reading through various segments, highlighting main points, and focusing on key concepts. Connect these back to the thesis statement. Academic journals often use subsection titles to mark specific developments in a research study. Don't feel obligated to read every word; focus on grasping the main idea and why the content is present. Take notes actively as you read, circling or highlighting individual portions of the journal article. These segments typically include an introduction, methodology, results, conclusion, and references. Write down a brief description of the research, listing steps taken from start to end, describing methodology, and summarizing the study. Decide what aspects of the article are most important, referring to them as main supporting ideas or sections. Any major points used to support the author's argument should be present. When writing a summary for an article, it's essential to provide a clear overview of the research, including its theoretical background and assumptions. In scientific writing, summarize the researchers' hypotheses, procedures, statistical results, and interpretations of data. For humanities articles, focus on summarizing fundamental assumptions, school of thought, examples, and ideas presented. Identify key vocabulary and include major keywords used in the article to ensure understanding. To keep it brief, aim for one paragraph per main point, with a total word count of 500-1000 words for most academic articles. Write short paragraphs summarizing separate portions of the journal article. Avoid using personal pronouns and maintain an objective tone, providing an overview rather than critiquing the article. Start by defining the research question, which should be discussed in the introduction or as the main argument the authors hope to prove with their research. Discuss the methodology used by the authors, summarizing how they came to conclusions through first-hand research or data collection. Focus on the simplified idea of how the research question was addressed, rather than detailing testing procedures. When summarizing a research article, only process the data provided by the authors. The summary should cover the research question, conclusions/results, and how those results were achieved. It's crucial to describe what the authors accomplished as a result of their work, including whether they met their objectives and drew relevant conclusions. Additionally, consider connecting the main ideas presented in the article, filling in gaps or assumptions, and clarifying complex arguments in simpler terms. Remember to refrain from drawing your own conclusions and avoid using direct quotations from the original text. Instead, focus on paraphrasing the ideas while maintaining the author's intended meaning. Use present tense when discussing the article's contents and revise your draft to ensure a concise and coherent summary that accurately reflects the original research. To write an article similar in structure to a peer-reviewed journal piece, follow all guidelines including fact-checking by experts before publication and taking notes while scanning the content for key points of interest. It is suggested to take initial notes during the scan to remember what aspects caught your attention, then review the content again later on.

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