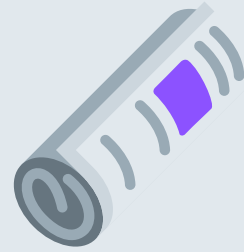


Is it scholarly or popular?



Scholarly

-
- Goes through Peer Review process
 - Written for scholars, professors and students
 - Author's credentials given
 - Extensive bibliography (pro tip: if an article is relevant to your paper, look at the bibliography to find more)
 - Longer publishing process, may be part of a conversation that takes decades
 - Author is an expert



Popular

-
- May be fact-checked, but does not go through peer review
 - May be written for a general audience or people with specific interests
 - May include author's name and contact information, or not name an author
 - May have linked references, or none at all
 - May be a very quick publishing process, even news that occurred within an hour of publishing
 - Author is a journalist, blogger, or expert (experts sometimes write for a general audience)

Anatomy of a scholarly article

Literature review

A literature review puts the research in the context of what is known on the topic in a field. The author explains what we know (or think we know) from past research and what we don't. This helps the reader better understand the conversation that's taking place between researchers, and can lead you to more sources.

Abstract

An abstract is a short summary of the article. By reading the abstract before skimming the article, you can save time by ensuring that it's relevant to your topic

Results or Findings

Presents the data found by the study, usually in a chart or graph, and what answer the researchers found for their question

Methods or Methodology

Researchers explain how the study worked, what procedures were followed, and the demographics of the people that participated.

Discussion

Here, the authors interpret the results of the article, and give it meaning. They address any ways that the next researcher could improve the study, and what questions future researchers might ask.

Bibliography or References

Researchers are expected to include extensive bibliographies not only to give credit to works that they reference, but to stay organized, better answer questions from other researchers, and ensure that they have sufficient background information. Pro tip: If an article is relevant to your project, you may find more useful articles in the bibliography.

