Reading Academic Journal Articles
Challenges of Reading Academic Texts

• Tone and intention
• Length
• Difficult concepts and complex ideas
• Dense with information
Know the Parts/Typical Structures of an Article

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Methodology
- Results/Discussion/Conclusion
Abstract

- A brief summary of the article
- 150-250 words
- Allows readers to survey the article
- Allows readers to decide if they want to read further
Introduction and Literature Review

• Outlines the research issues

• States goals of the research study

• Summarizes previous research

• Emphasizes the importance of the research
Methodology

• How was the study conducted?

• Who were the participants?

• What tools were used to collect the data?

• What procedure was used?

• What is the theoretical foundation of the research?
Results, Discussion, and Conclusion

• Analysis of the data

• Explanation and interpretation of data

• Limitations of the research

• Implications of the research

• Suggestions for future research
Know Your Purpose

• General knowledge/background

• Prepare for class discussion

• Testable material

• Source material for an essay

• Review and evaluate the article

http://www.flickr.com/photos/jiscinfonet/291383069/
Be Selective

• Skim through sections of the article
  - abstract
  - introduction
  - headings
  - topic sentences
  - conclusion

• Keep your purpose in mind

• Establish a time limit
During Reading:

- Ask questions
- Create marginal notes
- Use context clues/lists to manage difficult vocabulary
Managing New Vocabulary

Most people who bother with the matter at all would admit that the English language is in a bad way, but it is generally assumed that we cannot by conscious action do anything about it. Our civilization is decadent, and our language—so the argument runs—must inevitably share in the general collapse. It follows that any struggle against the abuse of language is a sentimental archaism, like preferring candles to electric light or hansom cabs to aeroplanes.

After Reading:

- Create a cover sheet
- Link article to course content/goals
Academic Learning Centre

- 201 Tier (Fort Garry Campus)
- 245 Basic Sciences (Bannatyne Campus)

**Workshops**

**One to One Help**

**Web Resources**

(www.umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning)
References


