Reading Research: Article Anatomy
Components of a Research Article

1. **Title**
   A well-constructed title will summarize the main ideas of the study; subtitles may be used to provide context, qualify scope, identify a methodology, etc.

2. **Authors**
   Articles may provide additional author information beyond names, including institutional affiliations and contact information

3. **Publication Information**
   Source information, including journal title, date, issue, number, doi, etc.

4. **Abstract**
   A paragraph summary of the research question and findings.

5. **Introduction**
   States the reason for the research and context for the study: What did the authors set out to learn? What do we already know? Who has done similar research already?

6. **Literature Review**
   An examination of major theories related to the topic and all relevant past research. In some research articles, this component may be incorporated into the Introduction.

7. **Methods or Methodology**
   Describes the research population (“Study Sample”), method used to gather information (“Data Collection”), and means used for measuring (“Measures”)

8. **Results**
   A summary of the data gathered by the experiment, usually including a combination of text, charts, graphs and tables. This section will present results but not discuss their significance.

9. **Discussion/Conclusion**
   Analysis of the findings and an explanation of the significance of the research including relations to previous research, aberrant results and implications. “Conclusion” may presented as a separate component.

10. **References/Bibliography**
    An alphabetized list of all the academic sources used in the paper. The format of the references will match the format and style used in the paper (APA, MLA, etc.)

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