

BEFORE Psychology 201 Assignment

Psychology is a research-based science. To directly learn about how research is conducted, and the real-world application of Psychological research *[Purpose]*, Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 201) requires that students write a journal article summary. Journal article summaries must be written in your own words. Whole sections, sentences and critical phrases should not be copied from the original article and reproduced in your summary; this is plagiarism. Your summary should be typed and of **sufficient** quality to demonstrate that you comprehend the article that you read.

Your summary must discuss the hypothesis, methods, and conclusions from the article. Here are general guidelines:

1. INTRODUCTION

What basic **question** is the Experimenter trying to answer? What is the general problem area?

2. METHODS

- a) What or who were the experimental subjects? *[Information]*
- b) What task did they perform, or what test(s) did they take, or what characteristic(s) were measured? *[Information]*
- c) What was the design of the study? Was it experimental or correlational? *[Information]*

If experimental: Were there different groups of subjects or were the same subjects exposed to different treatments at different times, or both? What independent variable or variables were manipulated? What dependent variable or variables were measured? If correlational: How many variables were measured, and what were they?

3. RESULTS

What were the results? Did groups differ in performance, or did subjects' performance differ under as a result of treatment? If correlational, what were the relationships found among the variables measured? *[Information]*

4. DISCUSSION

What are the **implications** of the study? What questions remain for further research? This is the section to summarize the contribution of the study to research in the area of the study focus.

Text in Red

Indicates the infusion of the
Elements of Reasoning

Text in Blue

Indicates the infusion of the
Intellectual Standards

Text in Green

Indicates the infusion of the
Intellectual Traits

[Bracketed Text]

Indicates the indirect use of
critical thinking *[Elements]*,
[Standards], or *[Traits]*

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Framework of Critical Thinking](#)

AFTER Psychology 201 Assignment

Psychology is a research-based science. To directly learn about how research is conducted, and the real-world application of Psychological research, Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 201) requires that students complete a mandatory journal article analysis. Whole sections, sentences and critical phrases should not be copied from the original article and reproduced in your summary; this is plagiarism. Your analysis should be typed and of sufficient quality to demonstrate that you comprehend the article that you read. Instead of merely summarizing the article, you must critically analyze it.

Your analysis must discuss **ALL** of the following questions:

1. What is the main **purpose** of this article?

(State as **accurately** as possible the author's **purpose** for writing the article or for doing the research.)

2. What is (are) the important **question(s)** the author of this article is trying to address?

(Figure out the key **question(s)** in the mind of the author when s/he wrote the article about the research that was conducted.)

3. What kind of study was done? (Case study, survey, etc.) **[Information]**

3a. Justify your answer as to why it is what you say it is.

3b. What are the independent and dependent variables?

3c. Who are the subjects?

4. What facts, data, evidence **[Information]** or experiences does the author use to address the important question of the article?

5. What are the main **inferences/conclusions** in this article?

(Identify the key conclusions the author comes to and presents in the article)

6. Do the author's **conclusions** follow from the data/evidence presented? Why or why not?

7a. What are the **implications** if we take the author's line of reasoning seriously? (What consequences are likely to follow if people take the author's line of reasoning seriously?)

7b. What are the **implications** if we fail to take the author's line of reasoning seriously? (What **consequences** are likely to follow if people ignore the author's reasoning?)

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