

Guiding Questions for Journal Article Reports

- (1) What is the article about? Begin by trying to answer this question in one sentence.
- (2) What does the author declare as the goals of the article?
- (3) What does the author identify as the central issues to be dealt with?
- (4) What claims or theories are attacked? How are the attacks made?
- (5) What views are defended? How are the defences made?
- (6) What concessions, if any, are made by the author to critics s/he acknowledges?
- (7) Does the author's defence of some view contain an attempt to modify the view in order to make it more defensible? If so, explain.
- (8) If the author is primarily attempting to interpret or explain someone's views, state what the author believes is in need of explanation or interpretation. What is the essence of the author's explanation?