

Annotated bibliography of print resources on reading journal articles

Barker, Kathy. *At the Bench: A Laboratory Navigator, updated edition*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY: (2005), 465p.

Specifically the section titled “Journal Clubs” from *Chapter 6: Presenting Yourself and Your Data*, p.116-119, which discusses how to set-up or participate in a journal article club.

- For an activity, have students present on a journal paper in the style described in the above-referenced book section, or just give a quick synopsis of the paper. Or assign a short journal article for the students to read and then the instructor models a journal club presentation of that paper.

Darzens P J; Smith B J; Heller R F. “How to read a journal article,” *The Medical Journal of Australia* (1992), 157(6), 389-94.

This text is specific to medical journals, but may be a bit more generally applicable in asking questions about the importance/validity of a study.

Dee, Phil. *Building a Successful Career in Scientific Research: A Guide for PhD Students and Postdocs*, Cambridge University Press, New York: (2006), 140p.

”Breaking the code of scientific writing”, p. 20-22 from *Chapter 3: Handling the literature*, gives some examples of jargon-like phrases commonly encountered in journal articles. Somewhat amusing and can perhaps serve to demystify scientific writing.

Lozano J M; Ruiz J G. “Reading a journal article,” *Indian journal of pediatrics* (2000), 67(1), 55-62.

This text pertains specifically to medical journal articles with reference to the treatment of patients.

Niewoehner, Rob; Paul, Richard; Elder, Linda. *The Thinker’s Guide to Engineering Reasoning*, The Foundation for Critical Thinking, (2007), 57p.

Available through www.criticalthinking.org. Especially useful are the sections: “Analyzing an Engineering Document”, a fill-in-the-black checklist to evaluate author’s reasoning; “Using Intellectual Standards to Assess Graphics”, a list of questions; and “Evaluating an Engineer’s or Author’s Reasoning”, a list of questions.