

Extra Credit Article Review

You may write a review of an article published in a *professional journal* in psychology, sociology, education, etc. (ex: *Psychology Today*, *American Psychologist*, *Frontiers in Psychology*). Focus on a topic or issue that draws your attention.

Your critical review should include (in paragraph form):

- A title that reflects the topic of your review (not a paragraph).
- An initial identification of the article (author, title of article, title of journal, year of publication, and other details that seem important), and an indication of the major aspects of the article you will be discussing.
- A brief summary of the main points and argument of the article. In your own words, what is the author's thesis? What is the author's argument and what information/evidence and sources does he/she use to support that argument? What are the author's general conclusions? This section should normally take up about a third of the total review.
- A critical discussion of 2-3 key issues raised in the article. *This section is the core of your review.* You need to make clear the author's own argument before you criticize and evaluate it. Also you must support your criticisms with evidence from the text or from other writings. A critique is *not* whether you liked the article or not. Rather, you should assess whether the main point(s) is really significant? Does the author's argument support the main point(s)? Is the evidence convincing? *How can you apply this information to psychology and real life?*
- A final evaluation of the overall contribution that the article has made to your understanding of the topic in terms of psychology and the world around you.
- An appropriately written APA style bibliography.