AP PSYCHOLOGY 2016-17 Article Review

**HOW TO WRITE AN ARTICLE REVIEW**

**Selecting an article:**

1. Locate an article from a legitimate newspaper or periodical dealing with each of the topics listed below. Chose an article that is particularly interesting to you—you’ll get more out of the assignment if you do this. The article must be six paragraphs or more and must be a year or less old. Be sure to provide an electronic copy of the article and attach it to your summary. A different article must be used for each topic *(see list from “Reading your Article”, #2).* When using the Internet to search for articles, key words will be an important aspect of your search – look for those key words throughout the paragraphs describing each topic. The Washington Post Health Section is published on Tuesdays, where you can often find articles relating to psychology. The New York Times also has a very good Science and Health section, too. In addition, you can use the following websites:

a. Sciencedaily.com

b. Psychologytoday.com

c. <http://psychcentral.com>

d. https://www.apa.org/pubs/databases/psycarticles/index.aspx

1. Articles may be from any magazine or periodical, however, try to use articles from scientific/professional magazines, periodicals or journals. Websites should end in .**edu or .org.** If you find a .com website that may be of interest to you, check with me first.
2. Articles should be at least 2 pages in length. Do not select an article simply because it meets the minimum requirement; select it for its value and the information it provides you. (*Reader’s Digest, Prevention, Jet,* or like magazines should be at least 3 or more pages since they are half the standard size. These magazines should be avoided, however, they do occasionally have good “stuff” in them…just be careful.)
3. Pick an article that will update your information on the various topics we will discuss**. Avoid articles written before this century; we are interested in *new* findings, *new* research.**

**Reading your article:**

1. Keep an open mind; be willing to accept new ideas or points of view.
2. Take notes or highlight:
3. the author’s thesis
4. the main points he uses to support his thesis
5. how this article relates/incorporates the ideas contained within these ten topics of study:
6. biological bases of behavior
7. sensation & perception
8. states of consciousness
9. memory, thinking, problem-solving, creativity and language
10. motivation
11. emotion, stress, and health
12. developmental psychology
13. testing and individual differences
14. abnormal psychology and treatment
15. social psychology
16. Recognize and jot down any biases, assumptions, and separate fact from opinion---does the author use slogans or catch phrases repeatedly?
17. Identify the author’s conclusion. What are the results of his study? Do they support his thesis?

**Writing your summary and critique:**

1. In at least one page, following proper essay format, summarize the article. Start with an introduction. This should include the author’s thesis. In the following paragraphs synthesize (tie together) the main/supporting ideas. Avoid following the author’s wording too closely. Use direct quotes when necessary and cite the page number where the quote appeared (i.e.). Paraphrase and use your own words when summarizing the bulk of the article. “Remember summarizing is like pruning a tree; once finished all you have left is the trunk and few branches”. (from some sage teacher I had *years* ago but can’t remember which one)
2. Avoid personal pronouns and contractions. Write in the third person using formal language. (The practice will help you on your research paper.)
3. ***DO NOT*** use the following: “In this article . . .” or “The article. . .”. Instead refer to the title or the author by name: “According to \_\_\_\_” or “\_\_\_\_\_ states that. . .”
4. Once you have finished the summary begin on the critique. This too should be approximately one page in length.
5. When critiquing (criticizing + or -) keep the following in mind:
6. Your reaction to the author’s thesis and his main ideas (did the author cause you to modify or question your ideas or did he confirm them?)
7. How were the ideas presented—clear and concise, vague and difficult to understand?
8. Was the article based on fact, opinion, or assumption? Give examples. What sources did he use: newspapers, journals, diaries, interviews, research, . . .? These should be found in the bibliography.
9. When making a point about the article be sure to give examples to support your claims.
10. Conclude your review by summarizing your overall view of the article.

USE THE PROPER APA FORMAT FOR THE CITATION!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Typing your review (preferred):**

1. Place your name and the date in the upper left hand corner of the page.
2. Place your citation at the top of your paper. Use one inch margins.
3. Double space the body of the review.
4. Hand written reviews are permissible BUT must be in blue or black ink, double spaced on one side of the paper.

Sample:

Pamela Hammond

August 21, 2008

McGowen, K. (2004, December). Pay attention to this. *Psychology Today*, 37.

Retrieved Jan 20, 2005, from www.pychologytoday.com.

Blah, blah, blah, blah. . .

# APA Idiosyncrasies

* APA citations are flush with the left margin and the first line and then indented on the second and subsequent lines
* In text documentation goes before the period

**Helpful websites:**

* www.citationmachine.net
* www.galileo.peachnet.edu

# Citation Machine Idiosyncrasies

* Citation Machine is not able to format bibliographic citations with hanging indents because of limitations with HTML code. Therefore, you will be required to use your word processor to indent the second and following lines of all citations by 5 spaces for MLA and **1/2 inch for APA.**
* Proof the pasted citation for capitalization. In APA only the first letter in an article title is capitalized. If a proper name appears in the title Citation Machine will format it in lower case. Double check and make sure you correct this.

AP PSYCHOLOGY 2016-17 Article Review Rubric**SCORING RUBRIC FOR ARTICLE REVIEWS**

**2=Weak 4=Moderately Weak 6=Average 8=Moderately Strong 10=Strong**

1. The organization of the writing is clear and easy 2 4 6 8 10

to follow.

2. The assignment is concise and well written. 2 4 6 8 10

3. The assignment employs the appropriate

information or facts that are relevant to the 2 4 6 8 10

topic or issue at hand.

4. The content demonstrates an understanding 2 4 6 8 10

of the topic and related concepts.

5. Puts information into his or her own words;

identifies directly copied material, paraphrased 2 4 6 8 10

information or statistics through in-text

documentation.

6. Thoughtfully analyzes and evaluates the author’s 2 4 6 8 10

information, explanations and points of view.

7. Follows proper essay format with clear, well 2 4 6 8 10

developed introduction and conclusion.

8. Citation follows proper APA format. 2 4 6 8 10

9. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar 2 4 6 8 10

are accurate.

10. The article is demonstrative of one of the 10 listed

topics; assignment uses concrete detail from the

article to support the identified relationship. 2 4 6 8 10

**BONUS**  
11. The assignment is neatly typed, properly 2 4 6 8 10

formatted, and double spaced.