



Shortcuts for Reading a Research Article

- STEP 1** ● Read the **Abstract**, which briefly states the goal of the study and summarizes the findings.



IS THIS STUDY RELEVANT TO YOUR QUESTIONS? IF YES...

- STEP 2** ● Skip to the **Methods** or **Design** section, which outlines what is being studied, how the sample was selected, what research activities occurred, and what assessments were used to collect data.



JUDGE RIGOR OF EVIDENCE. MORE RIGOROUS IF:

- Random assignment to control group
- Compares treatment to a similar group
- Large sample size (350 students or more)
- Uses a standardized assessment

- STEP 3** ● Skip to the **Discussion** section, which interprets the results, as well as possible implications and caveats of the study.



**WHAT ARE THE ACTUAL RESULTS? ARE THEY MEANINGFUL?
ARE THEY ACHIEVABLE IN YOUR LOCAL CONTEXT?**

Congratulations! Now go read the next one.