ENG 453 Dr. Witte

# WHAT IS AN ARTICLE CRITIQUE?

An article critique is a specific type of reading response that asks you to read, analyze and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of an academic article. Critiques are holistic and examine both the content of the article and the ways in which is written before rendering an opinion on the validity or worthiness of the article. Ultimately, the purpose of the critique is to determine if the article meets *your* (personal and field-specific) standards of topic selection, evidence, logic and writing style.

## THE ASSIGNMENT

You need to carefully and critically read an article of your choice. You then need to compose a 2-3 page response that

- Briefly identifies the authors, topic, etc. in the introductory paragraph
- Briefly (1 paragraph) summarizes the article
- Makes claims about the **strengths or weaknesses** of the author's claims, evidence or conclusions
- Supports your claims about the author's work with specific, cited evidence from the article
- Makes a supported recommendation about whether someone in your field should use this article in his/her own research or writing.

### FORMAT

Your critique should be in essay format, using complete sentences and paragraphs. It should begin with a summary that identifies the article and author. That should be followed by your evaluation of the research and writing of the article, supported by evidence. Finally, you should conclude with a 1 paragraph recommendation, again supported by evidence, about the use of the article.

Your review should contain direct references (quotes, summaries and paraphrases) from the article. You need to correctly cite your summary at the beginning with a signal phrase and in-text citation. All other evidence should be cited in APA format.

Include a correctly formatted APA-style Works Cited entry at the end of your paper. (It doesn't need to be on its own page.)

### ARTICLE CHOICES

The article choice is up to you. Using the skills you've gained as a researcher and writer, locate an appropriate **research-based** article that reports on **a SINGLE research study** in the library's databases. It's in your best interest to choose articles that you might be able to use for your literature review and your research report.

You must send me a PDF of the article by **Sunday** before the Critique is due for approval. You may not choose the same article as someone else in the class, so if you have something you'd like to write about, you need to send me your choice promptly.

#### **IMPORATANT DATES**

#### Critique #1

<ul> <li>Sunday 9/17</li> </ul>	Article Choice and PDF Due by email (wittea@trine.edu)
<ul> <li>Thursday 9/21</li> </ul>	Final Article Critique #1 due to Moodle
Critique #2	
<ul> <li>Sunday 9/24</li> </ul>	Article Choice and PDF Due by email (wittea@trine.edu)
Thursday 9/28	Final Article Critique #2 due to Moodle
Critique #3	
<ul> <li>Sunday 10/1</li> </ul>	Article Choice and PDF Due by email (wittea@trine.edu)

• Thursday 10/5 Final Article Critique #3 due to Moodle

		Content & Purpose		Organization	Ρ	resentation & Design	Re	quirements
	٠	Clearly summarizes the	•	Presents a clear summary	٠	Consistently	•	Is at least 2-
		article so that someone who		at the beginning so that		integrates evidence		3 pages,
		had not read it could fully		readers can understand the		from articles using		double
		understand the research		claims that follow		signal phrases		spaced
		questions, methods, findings	•	Presents	٠	Correctly cites all		
		and conclusions		information/claims in the		evidence in-text		
An A	٠	Clearly evaluates the merit of		order a reader needs to	٠	Cites the article		
Critique		the research and writing,		understand the information		correctly at the end of		
(45-50		using appropriate evidence		that follows		the paper		
points)		from the article for support	•	Concludes with a strong,	٠	Has no noticeable		
	٠	Clearly provides a		clear, easily identifiable		errors in grammar or		
		recommendation about the		recommendation		spelling		
		use of the article, using	•	Consistently uses	٠	Correctly formats		
		appropriate evidence from		transitions to guide reader		headers, headings and		
		the article and evaluation as		from topic to topic		titles		
		support						
	٠	Mostly clearly summarizes	•	Presents a mostly clear	٠	Mostly consistently	•	Is at least 2-
		the article so that someone		summary at the beginning		integrates evidence		3 pages,
		who had not read it could		so that readers can		from article using		double
		fully understand the research		understand the claims that		signal phrases with		spaced
		questions, methods, findings		follow with a few parts out		only a few lapses		
		and conclusions with a few		of order or missing	٠	Mostly correctly cites		
		minor omissions	•	Mostly presents		all evidence in-text		
	٠	Mostly clearly evaluates the		information/claims in the		with only a few minor		
		merit of the research and		order a reader needs to		issues		
		writing, using appropriate		understand the information	٠	Mostly cites the article		
A B		evidence from the article for		that follows with a few		correctly at the end of		
Critique		support with a few spots		minor lapses		the paper with only a		
(40-44.5		where the evidence is	•	Concludes with a mostly		few minor issues		
points)		inappropriate or insufficient		strong, clear, easily	٠	Has a few minor		
	•	Mostly clearly provides a		identifiable		noticeable errors in		
		recommendation about the		recommendation with a		grammar or spelling		
		use of the article, using		few spots that do not fit a	٠	mostly correctly		
		appropriate evidence from		recommendation		formats headers,		
		the article and evaluation as	•	Mostly consistently uses		headings and titles		
		support with a few spots		transitions to guide reader		with only a few lapses		
		where the evidence is		from topic to topic with a				
		inappropriate or insufficient		few spots where				
				transitions are unclear or				
				omitted				

		Content & Purpose		Organization	Ρ	resentation & Design	Re	quirements
	•	Generally clearly summarizes	٠	Presents a generally clear	٠	Generally integrates	•	Is at least 2-
		the article so that someone		summary at the beginning		evidence from article		3 pages,
		who had not read it could		so that readers can		using signal phrases		double
		fully understand the research		understand the claims that		with some lapses		spaced
		questions, methods, findings		follow with some parts out	•	Generally correctly		
		and conclusions with some		of order or missing		evidence from article		
		omissions	•	Generally presents		in-text with only some		
	•	Generally clearly evaluates		information/claims in the		, minor or a few major		
		the merit of the research and		order a reader needs to		issues		
		writing, using appropriate		understand the information	•	Generally cites the		
AC		evidence from the article for		that follows with some		article correctly at the		
Critique		support with some spots		minor lapses		end of the paper some		
(35-39.5		where the evidence is	•	Concludes with a generally		minor or a few major		
points)		inappropriate or insufficient	•	strong, clear, easily		issues		
points	•	Generally clearly provides a		identifiable	•	Has some minor		
	•	recommendation about the		recommendation with	Ī	and/or a few major		
		use of the article, using		some spots that do not fit a		noticeable errors in		
		appropriate evidence from		recommendation		grammar or spelling		
		the article and evaluation as			_			
		support with some spots	•	Generally consistently uses	•	Generally correctly		
		where the evidence is		transitions to guide reader		formats headers,		
		inappropriate or insufficient OR where the		from topic to topic with		headings and titles		
		recommendation is unclear		some spots where		with some lapses		
				transitions are unclear or				
				omitted				
	٠	Somewhat clearly	•	Presents a somewhat clear	٠	Somewhat integrates	•	Is not at
		summarizes the article so		summary at the beginning		evidence from the		least 2-3
		that someone who had not		so that readers can		article using signal		pages,
		read it could fully understand		understand the claims that		phrases with many		double
		the research questions,		follow with many parts out		lapses		spaced
		methods, findings and		of order or missing	٠	Somewhat correctly		
		conclusions with many	•	Somewhat presents		cites evidence from		
		omissions		information/claims in the		the article in-text with		
	٠	Somewhat clearly evaluates		order a reader needs to		many minor or some		
		the merit of the research and		understand the information		major issues		
A D		writing, using appropriate		that follows with many	٠	Generally cites the		
Critique		evidence from the article for		lapses		article correctly at the		
(30-34.5		support with many spots	•	Concludes with a		end of the paper with		
points)		where the evidence is		recommendation with		many minor or some		
pointsj		inappropriate or insufficient		many spots that do not fit a		major issues		
	•	Somewhat clearly provides a		recommendation or has a	٠	Has many minor		
		recommendation about the		conclusion that is not a		and/or some major		
		use of the article, using		recommendation		noticeable errors in		
		appropriate evidence from	•	Somewhat consistently uses		grammar or spelling		
		the article and evaluation as		transitions to guide reader	•	Has generally		
		support with many spots		from topic to topic with		incorrectly formatted		
		where the evidence is		many spots where		headers, headings and		
		inappropriate or insufficient		transitions are unclear or		titles		
۱ I			1		1		i i	
		OR where the		omitted				

	Content & Purpose	Organization	Presentation & Design	Requirements
An F Critique (Less than 30 points)	<ul> <li>Content &amp; Purpose</li> <li>Minimally or never summarizes the article so that someone who had not read it could fully understand the research questions, methods, findings and conclusions with numerous omissions</li> <li>Minimally or never evaluates the merit of the research and writing, using appropriate evidence from the article for support with numerous spots where the evidence is inappropriate or insufficient</li> <li>Minimally or never provides a recommendation about the use of the article, using appropriate evidence from the article and evaluation as support with numerous spots where the evidence from the article and evaluation as support with numerous spots where the evidence is inappropriate or insufficient OR where the recommendation is unclear or absent</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Organization</li> <li>Presents a minimally clear summary at the beginning so that readers can understand the claims that follow with numerous parts out of order or missing</li> <li>Minimally or never presents information/claims in the order a reader needs to understand the information that follows with numerous lapses</li> <li>Concludes with a recommendation that is difficult to identify or understand or has a conclusion that is not a recommendation</li> <li>Minimally or never consistently uses transitions to guide reader from topic to topic with numerous spots where transitions are unclear or omitted</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Presentation &amp; Design</li> <li>Minimally or never integrates evidence from the article using signal phrases</li> <li>Fails to correctly cite evidence from the article in-text</li> <li>Fails to cite the article at the end of the paper</li> <li>Has numerous minor and major noticeable errors in grammar or spelling</li> <li>Incorrectly formats headers, headings and titles</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Is not at least 2-3 pages, double spaced</li> </ul>