

Questions to Answer When Reading Articles

J. Blustein

for CSCI 6606 (Winter 2013)

1. What would you need to cite this article in a class essay or journal article of your own? What would you need to know to find this article again?

- What are the specific bibliographic details for this article (author, title, journal name, volume, number/month, year of publication, etc.)?

2. What would you write about it for inclusion in an annotated bibliography?

The summary you write must be useful to a later reader, but it is *not* a review that will tell the next reader if the article is worth reading. Your summary will act as a surrogate for the article.

- Summarize the article.
- Why is this article different from other articles? Is it because of what the author says, how they say it, what they did, or something else.
- What are the most salient points about the article?
- What are the most important points in the article?
- Try not to exceed 725 words. 725 = $\lceil 2^{9.5} \rceil$
- Here are some questions that might help you to write the summary:
 - What are the best two things about the article?
 - If you could change only two things about the article, what would they be?
 - If you could ask the author(s) one question about the article, what would you ask? (An alternative: if someone were to write a follow-up article, what points would you want them to address?)
 - If you were to ask an undergraduate student two questions about the article (to see if they had read *and* understood it), what two questions would you ask?
 - Is there anything else that you must say about the article or you will burst?