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BIOL 294

### Article Types

In order to properly identify a primary article, one must first analyze the context in which the information is presented. If the information is original scientific work, and the authors of the text are those who conducted the study/experiment, it would be considered a **primary article**.

The author's role in the primary article is to present their findings of their experiment or study in an organized manner that is sufficient and reliable to experts in the field, which is why the article is typically organized by an introduction, followed by their methods of research execution, then presenting their results, and finally a discussion of their results (i.e a data analysis) which is then completed with a list of references that may account for the initial understandings presented in the introduction. The primary article will essentially act as the story told by the authors that explains their findings and how said findings have relevance in the field that they study, and this relevance along with proper implementation is typically "peer reviewed" or examined by other researchers or experts in the field to validate and confirm that their data or research is sufficient.

Primary articles of course differ from review articles, which are identified definitively as articles that present in an overview and analyze the findings or research of somebody else. Review articles typically are written by authors who did not conduct the experiment they are referring to, and instead are looking to summarize the information presented in the primary article, as to provide clarity and identify key points that should be understood by the reader. A review article is just one type of secondary article, which is just defined as an article that is about information not presented by the original researcher, and review articles are unique as a subset pertaining to their supply of summary and analysis to the primary article.

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A primary article of course cannot be submitted/presented unless it is peer reviewed to ensure that the findings and data that will be presented in the article are not superfluous and are rather sufficient and relevant to the topic at hand, as well as provide adequate data that answers specific questions that were originally sought out. The process of peer review starts when the primary article draft is submitted by the researcher to a scholarly journal for publication. The journal's editor will decide whether or not the article will be a good fit for the journal, and if it is, the article will be submitted to experts of the field for an evaluation of the article's quality, which is the actual peer review step. After the expert review, the article is returned to the editor of the journal with recommendations of acceptance or rejection, with notes and points of revision. This process is typically one that will go back and forth multiple times over large timespans due to repeated revisions before an article is worthy of publication depending on the journal. Overall, the peer review process takes into account the presentation and quality of the article, to make sure that the article will provide sufficient information and be a great contributor to the field of interest.