

A primary source is a first-hand account of events that are being described by the author. In science, this usually means a study or experiment in which data was collected and then evaluated. The main sections of a primary research article are the Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Evaluation, and References.

A review article is an article that, rather than conducting its own experiment or test, evaluates the combination of results from different primary sources on a given topic. The goal of review articles is normally to compile the results on a research topic and come to a more complicated conclusion than what any one research project would be able to.

The scientific peer review process is done through scientific journals, which have a board of experts in a particular field verify the integrity of the results and provide feedback to the researchers until they feel it is of high enough quality to be published.

Between the two articles provided, “Permanent Inactivation” is the primary article and “Huntington’s Disease” is the review article. One can tell the first is a primary article because it describes an experiment the researchers did in order to understand the genes that control Huntington’s disease, providing their methods, raw data, and evaluation of it. The second article is a review article because it does not detail any experiment that was run by the researchers, but rather cites many different articles from which they get their information.