# **Read for what you need**

## Your guide to academic reading

Academic reading is purposeful and strategic reading. This makes sure you are informed, efficient, and engaged. The key to academic reading is analysing the structure of the text.

### **Abstract**

A brief summary of what the paper is and what you will discover by reading it.

Scan this to decide if the document is relevant to your topic and meets the

question that you are asking.

### **Introduction**

**What** the idea/s the author will present.

**Why** the author thinks this subject/topic is important.

**How** the author has found that information and how they will share their claims.

### **Body**

Read this to look for the author’s analysis and discussion of the subject.

* Present evidence
* Analysis of what has informed the author
* The author’s main idea

### **Methodology**

Read this to decide if you think the research undertaken is/was robust and reliable.

* **How** the author conducted their study.
* **What** methods they used (qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods)
* **What** are the advantages and disadvantages of this approach?
* **Where** the investigation was conducted

### **Results**

**What** findings the author's research discovered. This may include quotes, statistics and other data. This may be presented in graphs, charts or figures.

### **Discussion**

Read this to find out what the author thinks is important from their findings.

Read to decide if you would argue or agree with the author's interpretation of the findings.

* **What** the author thinks the findings mean.
* **How** the author has analysed and synthesised their findings.

### **Conclusion**

Read this to see what the author did not address and what further questions might be raised.

* **What** is the author's main idea?
* **What** has the author answered or addressed with regards to questions you have been considering as you read?

### **Reference List / Bibliography**

Read this to find additional, relevant reading materials.

* Here you will find the sources the author used.
* A ready-made list of further reading relevant to the topic.