How to Read a Paper Worksheet

This worksheet will take you through the Three-Pass Approach to read a research paper.

The First Pass

Read the paper **title, abstract, and introduction**. Take notes below. Try to briefly summarize the paper from these three pieces in a few sentences.

Do you want to keep reading the paper? If yes, proceed to the next step.

The Second Pass

Read the **entire paper**. Do the methods and data make sense? Does the paper use valid resources? Write down terms or concepts you are not familiar with below.

Does this paper impact your understanding of your research project? If yes, proceed to the next step.

The Third Pass

Research the terms or concepts you listed from your second pass. Use this list as a reference as you read through the paper again.

Now that you have mastered this paper check out the reference section. The references will provide additional research papers to help you understand more about this paper and your project.