

Comparing Journalistic Reports to Primary Sources of Research, Part III

Step 1: Review primary source(s)

Re-read your primary source.

Step 2: Consider the journalistic challenge

Imagine that you are journalist (or even a blogger) that strives for fair and balanced reporting of research.

- What factors need to be considered in reporting scientific results fairly to a naïve audience?
- What numbers should or should not be included?
- What details of the research procedures and methods should be included?
- What are some of the pros and cons of including too much or too little information about the experimental paradigm or statistical results?

Step 3: Writing

Write a 1-2 page (double-spaced, Times or similar font, approx. 600 words) news article reporting the scientific findings fairly. Keep in mind that your audience is intelligent, but not necessarily versed in the background of the field you are reporting on.

Step 4: Turn it in

Submit your paper on Moodle in MS Word Format (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text Format (.rtf).