

## Technical Writing Assignment – Summarizing and Reviewing Scientific Literature

DRAFT REPORT (PART A) DUE Week 2

FINAL REPORT DUE Week 5 at the start of seminar on D2L

*Purpose: To develop critical thinking skills and ability to read and summarize peer-reviewed scientific literature.*

Baker, M. 2016. 1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility. *Nature* 533: 452–454. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1038/533452a>

### Seminar 2 CSE Referencing

1 Read the assigned article

- Take time to properly read and understand each component of the article
- Briefly look at each section to identify main topics, once you've identified these, read the article again looking for more detail and take notes
- While summarizing the paper, avoid plagiarism by taking notes in your own words rather than just copying word for word from the article, if you can't do this you don't yet understand what the article is saying, read it again

3. In seminar work on developing your outline – it should include main headings and points/ideas from the article in point form/bullets

4. First draft of summary piece (Part A) hard copy due start of seminar Week 2

### Seminar 3 FIRST DRAFT DUE

- First draft Part A complete with intext references
- Must have submitted to dropbox and have a Turnitin score before seminar
- Come with some background research for Part B.
- Trade your first draft with another person – using the rubric provided, read each other's summaries and make edits/suggestions/discuss
- Bring with you a new topic or idea to write about for Part B. Have a new peer-reviewed article to use for Part B.

### Seminar 5 FINAL REPORT DUE

Report is due on D2L (as a word document) before the start of seminar in Week 5. Your report will have two parts.

#### What to Hand in:

**Part A:** a **500-word max**, typed and double-spaced **SUMMARY** of the article (not including references) that will address the following points.

1. Clear identification of the type of paper, research, title, author and main point of the article in present tense
2. Using your outline, summarize the paper making sure you have covered the important parts and main ideas of the article
3. Do not include your own ideas, opinions, or interpretations into the summary. Be very careful with your choice of words.

4. Write your summary using “summarizing language”; for example...*the article claims... the author suggests etc.* A reader who has not read the original article should be able to understand the main idea based on your summary.

5. Include the main article as your reference and cite using **CSE Referencing style and Name-Year system** both intext and in literature cited section.

**Part B:** is a **500-word max**, typed and double-spaced review. Focus on one aspect of the article and find support using new references. Do you agree or disagree with the authors? Why or why not? What was one main idea/theme that could be expanded or explained using more research? This section will also have its own cited references using same CSE style used in Part A.

**Must include at least 2 new peer reviewed journal articles for this section and use to back up your ideas with intext citations.**