

Assignment: Article report

The **goal** of the article report is to give you an opportunity to: (a) practice identifying the key elements of a published phonetics experiment; (b) think critically about that experiment; and (c) find ideas to help you plan your final project. **Choose an article that looks at a language, a phenomenon, or a research technique that you are considering for your final project proposal.** This is a partner-group assignment.

(1) Choose a published experiment to report on

- Find an article that reports on **acoustic data** (NOT ultrasound or MRI data!) from a **production experiment** (NOT a perception experiment!)
 - the *speech* of one or more participants *is recorded*
 - *acoustic* analysis is carried out: formant values, VOT, segment duration, f_0 , etc.
- The article must be **published**, which means that it must have a *bibliographic citation*, although this may be an online-only journal or conference proceedings. (Watch out for ICPHS articles, which are usually too short to be usefully summarized. Avoid using a BA or MA thesis or a PhD dissertation unless you check with me first.)
- The article may present a single experiment or many experiments, but your article report only needs to focus on **one of the experiments**. Discussing two or more closely-related experiments is also fine, especially if this is helpful for your project.
- To get started finding relevant journals (for browsing through recent issues) or article databases (for finding articles on specific topics), try the resources linked at the bottom of the "[Final project information and resources](#)" web page on the course web site.

Article proposals are due F Oct 28 by 11:00pm—submit PDF as Sakai "Assignment"

- Proposal** consists of:
- The full bibliographic **citation** of the article [[citation format](#)]
 - A link to the **article** (use DOI if possible)
 - A brief **description** of the experiment(s) your report will focus on: What language sounds are studied? What properties are measured?
 - A brief explanation of how this experiment is related to your **project** topic area

(2) Analyze the structure of the experiment that you have chosen

Your report should be between about 4 to 6 pages long (double-spaced). It should be **in your own words**, except for short quotations if necessary (indicate these with quotation marks or block-quote indentations). Don't just put together four pages of excerpts from the article—convince me that you understood it yourself. You may include graphs/charts from the article in your report.

Here are **points to focus on** in the article report—show me that you understand how the materials and procedure (recording, measurement criteria, etc.) **are connected to** the research questions.

- What are the big-picture and manageable questions?
- Explain, and give examples of, the stimuli and the different conditions in the experiment. Remember to relate them to the research questions.
- What measurement techniques were used? What measurement landmarks were used?
- What results were found? What does the author think that the results show? (Do you agree?)

Article reports are due W Nov 2 by 11:00pm—submit PDF as Sakai "Assignment"