Article contribution reports #1 and #2

As part of the preparation for your final project, you will submit an **article contribution report** for **each** of the two articles you have chosen to combine or contrast. The content of each article report will be very similar to that of the group presentation you have already done, but it encourages you to **work backward** in order to understand the article starting from the reults. The article reports focus closely on the **research question(s), experiment design, and results** from the original articles, but also ask you to think about how this information will **contribute** to your own project presentation.

If you choose an article that presents multiple experiments, you can decide whether to focus on just one or more than one in your article report. This decision may depend on what is relevant for your project.

Format of article contribution report:

- Your report should be about 4 to 6 pages long (double-spaced), including the data graphic(s). Longer is fine if necessary, but do not pad your writing just to add length.
- Include the full bibliographic citation for your source at the end (this does not have to be on a separate page).
- Your report should be **in your own words**, except for short quotations if necessary (indicate these with quotation marks or block-quote indentations, and give page-number citations). Don't just put together four pages of excerpts from the article or use an AI-generated summary—convince me that *you understood the content yourself*. However, you may include screenshots of data graphics or data tables from the article in your report (again, these should have page-number citations).
- Use your **best writing style**. This doesn't mean being fancy: aim for **simple and clear prose**. Divide your writing into **paragraphs** and make sure each paragraph makes a **point** or contributes to the discussion. Reread your own writing to catch typos but also to check that the **logic** of your discussion is clear to the reader.

Content of article contribution report, in the following order:

(1) For each **result or set of results** that you discuss, present a **data graphic**. (This does *not* mean the same thing as a data *table*!) Choose a graphic that addresses the **results** of one of the **measurable research questions** in the article, not just background information about participants, properties of the stimuli, etc.

- **Show** the data graphic: You can either make your own or take a screenshot from the article. Just be sure to give a page-number citation for the authors' graphic or the data you used to make your graphic.
- **Parse** the structure of the data graphic: Explain what is represented on each axis and, where relevant, what the different colors, bars, plotting symbols, etc., mean. (Doing this will help you identify measurable research questions.)
- **Interpret** the data graphic: Explain how the graphic *illustrates* the results under discussion—tell the reader *what to look at* in order to *see the point*.

(2)	For each **result or set of results** that your data graphic focuses on:

- What specific **measurable research questions** are these results an answer to? Make sure you give the measurable research questions in a **quantitative** (numerical) form: "Is A larger than B?" "Does Y increase as X increases?" Remember that understanding the structure and interpretation of your data graphic will help you a great deal with this step.

- What was the **design** of the experiment that generated these results? (Participants? Materials? Task?) Give one **example stimulus** from **each condition** of the experiment, and **explain** how the stimulus design relates to the measurable research questions. (If the authors provide no example stimuli, state that, and describe the nature of the stimuli as well as you can.) Here again, the categories represented in the data graphic should be closely related to the experiment design.

(3)	What is/are some key **big-picture research question**(s) addressed by the article? How do the measurable research questions you have identified relate to the big-picture research question? What insight do the results you are reporting provide into the big-picture research question?

(4)	Identify **problems** or **concerns** with the experiments or their interpretation, if any. This may include concerns raised by the authors (if so, make that clear and give a citation) and/or concerns that you raise yourself.

(5)	At the end, include a **brief discussion** of how you are planning to use the information that you have just summarized as part of your **final project**.

Changing your article: At some point during the project process, you may decide that you would like to change one (or both) of your articles and replace it with a different one. This might happen when you get your topic proposal feedback, or while you are working on one or both of your article contribution reports, or when you get your article report feedback. **It is always permitted** to change your article if you find that you need to. You are encouraged to check in with me about your new article, but this is not required. That said, make sure the articles you will use for your final presentation still meet the criteria.

(see next page for grading criteria)

Grading criteria — Article summary

Criterion	Points possible
Data graphic is provided; data shown in graphic is from results of study	2
Data graphic is clearly parsed and interpreted; relevant results are clearly stated	3
Measurable research question(s) are relevant to results presented; they are stated insightfully and in quantitative terms	2
Methodology (participants, stimuli, task) is explained and explicitly related to measurable research question; stimuli examples are included if possible	3
Big-picture research questions are stated insightfully and related to relevant MRQs and results	1
If relevant, criticisms of study are clearly raised and supported	1
Article's link to your final project is made clear	2
Article meets criteria (reports quantitative experiment); report is at least 4-6 pgs double-spaced	2
Article content is accurate overall; discussion shows that article was well understood; class concepts are used where appropriate	2
Article report has clear writing with paragraphs; mostly in your own words; appropriate citations in text; bibliography format appropriate	2