

Research Paper Guided Reading Form

Instructions: Type your answer/notes for each question underneath the question. You do not need to use formal writing. Notes are fine. Use as much space as you need for each answer.

1. Record the following information about this paper:

Title: _____

Authors: _____

Where/when published: _____

2. Read the paper's abstract. Below, write what you think the main problem the paper is solving is, and what you think the paper's main contribution is. This should be in your own words.

Problem:

Main Contribution:

3. Now, read the introduction, and highlight or underline any words, terms or concepts that you do not understand, but don't stop to try to figure them out, yet. When you have finished reading the introduction, answer the following:

- Give more detail about the specific problem(s) that this paper is addressing. While your answer above might have been very general, you should try to give more detail here.
- What terms or concepts are you confused about, and how important do you think each will be to your understanding of the paper?

4. Next, skip to the "Evaluation" section and read it, again continuing to highlight (but not worry too much about) things you don't understand. Then, answer these questions: "How does the author show that their approach is successful? What evidence does the author provide? Is it compelling?" It's OK if you don't understand the details. Focus on the big picture of what the authors are trying to do.

5. Now, read the "Related Work" section. After you are done, answer this question: "How does the work in this paper build on what has been done before?" Your answer doesn't have to be perfect. Just give it your best shot.

6. Finally, read the "meat" of the paper which describes the new approach or technique that the paper proposes. Continue to highlight what you don't understand, but also highlight areas that you feel are important. Use a different annotation for each, so you can distinguish between them. When you are finished, answer these questions:
 - To the best of your understanding, what is proposed in this paper? The answer to this question should contain as much detail as possible, and should be a few paragraphs long, most likely. If you are filling out this form in class, you probably won't have time to write this out in detail.

 - What are the key concepts/terms/ideas that are blocking your more complete understanding of this paper? These should be the things you highlighted as confusions that you feel are most important for you to understand in order to understand this paper.

7. Finally, read quickly or skim any sections that you have not yet read, though at this point these sections should consist only perhaps of the discussion and the conclusion. There is nothing to record for this part.