Academic writing:
 is writing done by scholars for other scholars.
 is devoted to topics and questions that are of interest to the academic community.
 should present the reader with an informed argument.

Source: https://writing-speech.dartmouth.edu/learning/materials/materials-first-year-writers/what-academic-paper#sthash.suXOtOh2.dpuf
IS IT EASY TO READ AN ACADEMIC ARTICLE?

Reading an academic article is tough, even to native English readers!!!

Why???

- Knowledge
- Language
- Target audience: highly educated / specialized circle
- Writing standard/style
- INEFFECTIVE WAY OF READING!
SO HOW TO READ?

Different ways, of course.
Below is just a suggestion

Source:
http://www.lenmholmes.org.uk/students/how2read/how2read_a.htm
Academic articles cannot be read effectively in the same way as a short story, a novel or a newspaper report.

- identify the **structure** of the author's argument.
- reading an academic article is a **skilful practice**;
Stage 1. Look at the title (and subtitle)
Stage 2: Identify the structure

E.g: a journal paper:

- Title
- Author details
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Theoretical discussion
- Presentation and discussion of empirical findings
- Conclusion
- Bibliography
Stage 3: Read the abstract for main idea
Stage 4: Skim read whole article

- rule 1: read only the first sentence in each paragraph
- rule 2: read fully the first paragraph of each section
- rule 3: read fully the first and last paragraph of the Introduction and the Conclusion sections
Stage 5: Read the article fully

only when you have gained an understanding of the structure and the main content.
With the article “Export to Mars” (in Microeconomics course)

- **Stage 1. Look at the title (and subtitle)**
  What does it tell you?

- **Stage 2: Identify the structure**
  How many main parts?

- **Stage 3: Read the abstract for main idea** (No abstract- just skip)

- **Stage 4: Skim read whole article**

- **Stage 5: Read the article fully**
Economists are constantly urging governments to adopt policies that would reduce global imbalances—which, in crude terms, means that China should slash its current-account surplus and America its deficit.

Are aliens buying Louis Vuitton handbags? Are little green men bagging the best sunbeds by the hotel pool? The more down-to-earth explanation is that the global surplus reflects statistical errors.

The puzzle is compounded by the fact that the world ran a persistent current-account deficit for at least three decades until 2005.

Since that report, however, measurement errors in merchandise trade have jumped and now match those in services.

Another possible explanation posits that the surge in the global discrepancy broadly coincides with both the explosion in vertically integrated businesses, where firms locate different stages of production in different countries, and the increase in China’s trade.

Overinvoicing of imports and underinvoicing of exports by American multinationals trying to reduce their tax bills would mean that America’s true current-account deficit is smaller than officially reported.

To understand whether global imbalances really are widening or not, you need to know where the errors lie.

The good news is that international concerns about global imbalances may be much less pressing than many think. The bad news is that conventional balance-of-payments measures are clearly less reliable in a world of rising intra-firm trade and complex supply chains. That matters because dodgy statistics lead to policy mistakes. Governments should clean the figures up.