



## University of Vermont Graduate Writing Center

### IMRaD: A Rhetorical Guide to Reading

IMRaD—an acronym for Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion—is a frequently used approach to structuring science and some social science writing. If you are new to reading or writing scientific papers, you can use this chart to help you track *what* happens in each of an IMRaD paper’s sections: how science and social science writers introduce and contextualize a problem, describe and justify an approach to working on the problem, communicate results, and draw and detail conclusions and implications.

Section	Questions Answered
Introduction	What are the authors/what am I investigating and why? What does prior research show (or not show)?
Methods	How did the authors/how did I conduct the study and why?
Results	What did the authors/I find?
Discussion/ Conclusions	What do the results mean? Why do they matter? What next steps are needed or what new possibilities does this/my research suggest?