Assignment: How to Read a Research Paper

1. ORGANIZE INTO TEAMS
   - Organize in teams of 2 or 3 ONLY.
   - Each team chooses an article and writes team members’ names.
   - Mr. Hemingway will send a copy of the article to your Dropbox.
   - Work as a team, and split up the tasks among you.

2. REVIEW HANDOUT BY McNEAL
   Review McNeal pages 1-2. For this assignment, we will not examine research papers to the same extent as McNeal’s university course.

3. DISSECT THE PAPER
   Print a hard copy of the paper. Mark up the paper using:
   - Black pencil underline: vocabulary (2.a)
   - Red pen underline: major concepts (2.c) You will find these key concepts in the abstract too.
   - Yellow highlight: Key phrases and sentences. E.g. research question, hypothesis, conclusion. These should be in the abstract too.
   - Pink highlight: Purpose of the research, one major finding, and one possible implication
   - Green highlight: Research method verbs

4. ANALYSE THE CONTEXT OF THE PAPER
   1. Use Google Scholar to see who has cited this paper. Report back with at least one other published paper.
   2. Who are the authors? Where do they work? What else have they written? (Start by looking for them in the references of their own paper. Then use Google Scholar to see what else is there for that author.
   3. Where was the article published? Does the journal have its own website? What other journals have published work by the same author?

5. PRESENT YOUR FINDINGS
   Next week, your team will give a 7-10 minute presentation on the research paper. You are NOT expected to understand the content. Discuss briefly:
   1. the purpose of the research
   2. some new and interesting vocabulary
   3. something about the research methods
   4. something about the conclusions and possible implications
   5. something you learned about scientific research in general