

# Reading: Citation.

## The Question, Puzzle, or Problem

The key question, questions, puzzle (tension in an observation, competing theories, etc.), or problem that motivate the piece

## The answer(s), i.e., the theory

### IV

Conceptual.  
What's doing the explaining. What's causing differences or the outcome

### Mechanism(s)

Conceptual.  
What connects to the IV and DV?  
What's the explanation or story?

### DV

Conceptual.  
What's being explained.  
The outcome of interest.

## The Test

### Concept

The general concept of interest (from the question and answer/theory).

### Measure

How the author(s) measures or operationalizes the concepts of interest.

### IV, DV, Control?

How does it fit into the theory? A key component? An alternate explanation?

### Source

Where the data came from.

### Method?

Using the data, how does the author(s) test the hypotheses? (ex., OLS regression, difference in difference)

### Findings?

What does the test reveal? Which hypotheses find support? Is it a causal connection?

## Additional or Alternative Tests?

Many articles pull information from multiple tests. This is space for those alternate tests. The first section should focus on whatever test is central. If there are multiple distinct tests, then you may want to duplicate the previous two chunks and fully fill those in as well.

## Key Take Away(s) + Contribution

This is a catch-all end section. Take note of the key take away or take aways. Connect the reading to other concepts in class or to real world examples. Additionally, take note of what the author says the contribution is, which may be with respect to the literature or with respect to policy or both.

For this focus on the intro, lit review, theory, and hypotheses section. Essentially, this is everything before the variables and numbers (in quantitative work).

For this focus on the data, method, and analysis sections. Essentially, this is the numbers bit (for quantitative work).

For this focus on the discussion, but may be articulated in the intro and throughout.