DISTINGUISHING

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Popular

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Usually a researcher or academic scholar (i.e. professor) who is an expert in the subject area. The university, research center, or academic credential (Ph.D., M.S.) is generally given	Author	Typically reporters or freelance writers who may or may not have academic expertise in the subject matter. Author's affiliation is generally not given
Academic faculty, professionals, researchers, and students	Audience QQQQ	General public; people who work in a particular industry or trade
Use of jargon/specialized vocabulary related to subject area Longer in length (5 + pages) typically	Language & Length	Simple, everyday language; layman's terms Shorter in length (1/4 page – 5 pages) typically
Articles may follow a predictable structure: abstract, introduction, literature review, methods, results, analysis/discussion, conclusion, and references May contain tables, graphs, and charts Limited or no advertisements	Appearance / Organization	Slick, attractive appearance Often tells a story as a narrative Often contains lots of pictures or advertisements
Content typically reviewed by several experts or editorial board in the subject area (peer review) to ensure accuracy and research quality	Information Checking	Content selected by editors employed by the magazine or trade publication
Academic and research libraries, other medical, scientific, and research settings Online in academic databases or at publisher web sites requesting password for access (Hint! start at UNLV's library web site to avoid paying) Yes. Lists the sources where quotes and	Location of Information	Newsstands, grocery stores, airport bookstores. Trade magazines get mailed to members of professional organizations Some popular and trade magazines are searchable in library databases Probably not. May refer to other sources but it is
information was taken from. Can be verified	References / Bibliography	difficult to verify
American Journal of Sociology, Child Abuse & Neglect, Journal of Abnormal Psychology, American Economic Review	Examples	Popular Magazines: Time, Newsweek, Ebony, People, Scientific American, The New Yorker Trade Magazines: Architectural lighting, Cement Americas, Frozen Food Age Newspapers: New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Las Vegas Review Journal