# Research Friday: Do Students Practice Retrieval?

**Learning Objective:** You will learn how to read and understand a research article by identifying its main ideas, structure, and key findings. Today, we're working on *Metacognitive Strategies in Student Learning: Do Students Practice Retrieval When They Study on Their Own?* by Karpicke, Butler, & Roediger (2009).

## Breaking It Down: Structure and Contents of a Journal Article

### Abstract

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| What is the main research question addressed in the study? | |
| What were the key findings? | |
| Summarize the abstract in 2 sentences, using your own words. | |

### Introduction

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| What is the "testing effect"? | |
| What previous research do the authors mention to support their study? | |
| What are the authors' main hypotheses? | |

### Method

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| How many participants were there, and who were they? | |
| What were the two types of questions used to assess students' study strategies? | |
| Why did the authors use those types of questions? | |

### Results

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| According to the study, what was the most commonly reported study | |

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| strategy? | |
| What percentage of students reported practicing recall (self-testing) as a study strategy? | |
| What was the main difference in responses between the two versions of the forced-choice question? | |

### Discussion

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| How do the authors explain why students tend to favor rereading over self-testing? | |
| What is an “illusion of competence,” and how does it relate to students’ study strategies? | |
| What practical recommendations do the authors suggest for improving student learning? | |

## Making Sense of It All: Critical Thinking and Application

### Personal Reflection

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| Before reading this article, what study strategies did you use most often? How does this compare to the study habits of the students surveyed in this study? | |

### Applying the Research

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| Based on the findings from this study, what changes might you make to your own study habits? | |
| How could teachers or professors encourage students to use retrieval-based study strategies? | |

### Identifying Key Takeaways

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| In one sentence, summarize the key message of this study. | |
| What is one new insight you learned from this article that you think is important for students to know? | |