**Abstract Evaluation Form**

**Your Name**

**Citation (APA Style)**

An abstract is a summary of an article. If you learn to use abstracts well, you will save yourself a lot of wasted effort in this class and in your professional life. Most abstracts are less than 250 words in length. A good abstract tells you a great deal about the article and helps you decide whether to **spend your precious time** reading the full article. Look for seven key pieces of information in the abstract. For each item, mark **1 (one) for very UNsatisfactory** and **5 (five) for very satisfactory**. Be **tough** as you score the abstracts. There are hundreds of thousands of “interesting” research reports and you have only so much time to devote to reading them. You have to be careful in selecting only the best to read. After you score the abstract for each component it should contain, answer the last question. Be **SELECTIVE** about the articles that you decide to read. If the article is weak (a score of 1 or 2) in one or two of the seven areas, be careful and not too eager to read it. If it scores weak or “medium” (a score of 3) in three or more areas, you should pass it by unless there is something really compelling about it – like you have never seen another research report that seems nearly as innovative and useful.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Score (1-5)** |
| Is the purpose of the study stated? Do the authors give you enough information to understand why they conducted the study? |  |
| Is there some explanation of how the study contributes to the overall body of knowledge about the topic? |  |
| Does the abstract discuss theory? Does it indicate that the research contributes to theory? |  |
| Do the authors provide enough information for you to understand the research objectives and question? |  |
| Does the abstract indicate the nature of the research design? |  |
| Does the abstract provide the key findings or results of the study?  |  |
| Do the authors provide some indication of the potential implications for future research or ideas about the potential applications of their work? |  |

Complete either one of the following two sentences.

1. I **WILL** use my precious time to read this article because…
2. I **WILL NOT** use my precious time to read this article because…