PREVIEWING AN ARTICLE

Who is the author & what does his/her background tell you about the article?

What else has the author published? Any sources look promising?

When was the article published? Why might this matter (given the subject matter)?

In what publication does the article appear? Who publishes the journal? Who’s on the editorial board?

What other types of articles does this journal publish? What seems to be its focus?

What other articles appear in the same volume? Are any related to your topic?
PREVIEWING AN ARTICLE

How long is the article?

How many sources does it cite?

Write down a few sources from the bibliography that relate to your topic and might be worth reading.

Read the first few paragraphs.

Is there an initial claim here? What is it?

What words/concepts/contexts might you need to learn about in order to better understand & use this source?

If you can’t understand what’s being argued, should you discard the source? Or speak to me about it?

Jot down some keywords from the title, first few pages, or bibliography and use them for a fresh search.