

Scholarly Articles or Popular Magazine Articles?

How can you tell the difference? Here are some clues to look for:

Scholarly Journal Articles	Popular Magazine Articles
Usually a scholar or researcher with expertise in the subject area; Author's credentials and/or affiliation are given.	Author Author's name may or may not be given; often a professional writer; may or may not have expertise in the subject area.
Other scholars, researchers and students.	Audience General public; the interested non-specialist.
Specialized terminology or jargon of the field; requires prior knowledge (or a good specialized dictionary!).	Language Vocabulary in general usage; understandable to most readers.
Articles have clearly-defined, regular structure with an abstract, objective, methodology, the results, analysis, and conclusion.	Appearance / Organization Informal organization: eye-catching type and formatting.
May include charts or graphs but rarely photographs or other illustrations	Usually includes illustrations and photographs.
Always has a list of references or bibliography; sources of quotes and facts are cited and can be verified.	References / Bibliography Rarely has a list of references; usually does not give complete information about sources of information.
Articles are peer-reviewed before publication : A panel of researchers or an editor reviews each paper for accuracy, methodology, and importance.	Peer-Review Articles are usually not evaluated by experts. Non Peer-reviewed sources must be carefully examined for relevance and accuracy.