

Seneca | LIBRARIES

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Journal, Magazine, Newspaper, and Trade Articles

When selecting articles, it is important to be able to distinguish between article types so that you can find the information you need. The following chart is meant to help you in this process.

	Journal Article	Magazine Article	Newspaper Article	Trade Magazine Article
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reports results of original research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> entertain, sell products, or promote a viewpoint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide readers with an account of current events locally, nationally, or internationally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> update readers on current trends in a specific industry or trade
Description / Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> very specific subject focus If it's peer-reviewed, articles are critically evaluated by a panel of experts in the field of research Consistent formatting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information provided is usually of current or general interest often illustrated with many advertisements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can provide a good introduction to current topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides up to date information about current trends in a specific industry or trade
Author	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an expert or specialist in the field Author's credentials, position, and affiliation are almost always provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> usually a staff writer or journalist who may or may not have subject expertise Author's name and credentials are often NOT provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> usually a journalist who may or may not have subject expertise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> usually a professional working in a specific trade or industry Usually published by an association
Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students, scientists, researchers, and professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of a specific industry or trade, including professionals, professors, and students
Works Cited /References List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works Cited /References list providing detailed source information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little, if any, source information is provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little, if any, source information is provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May or may not provide source information
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Behavioral Science</i> <i>British Journal of Sociology</i> <i>Journal of Advanced Nursing</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Chatelaine</i> <i>Maclean's</i> <i>Oprah</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Financial Post</i> <i>Globe and Mail</i> <i>Toronto Star</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Advertising Age</i> <i>Canadian Grocer</i> <i>Textile World</i>