Questions for Evaluating Academic Articles Worksheet

1. **Abstract**
   a. According to the abstract, what is the main point of the article?

   b. Is the article relevant or not for your purposes? Why?

2. **Introduction**
   a. What issues do the authors seem concerned about?

   b. What importance do the authors assign to those issues?

   c. What is the authors’ research question?

3. **Literature Review/Background**
   a. What do the authors say about other people’s research?

   b. Does the authors’ research question flow forth from previous research?

   c. What, if stated, are the hypotheses?

4. **Methods**
   a. What evidence do the authors choose to look at to determine whether the hypothesis is supported or not?

   b. What data was collected? How is it used?
5. **Results**
   a. How do the authors categorize the results?

   b. What are the authors’ findings?

   c. Are the main findings expected?

6. **Discussion**
   a. What evidence do the authors give in the discussion section to support the hypothesis? Give 2-3 examples of evidence the authors’ use. How well does the evidence support the authors’ hypothesis?

   b. Do the authors analyze what they initially said they would analyze (see your response to the first question)? Does the article meet its objectives?

   c. What do the authors recommend as a result of their findings? Do the recommendations fit with what their research found?

   d. Do the authors address the problems or limitations of their research methods? If so, what flaws or limitations do they mention?

   e. What do the authors suggest as future research?