Types of Periodicals

Articles can be found in a variety of publications. Characteristics of these publications are what follows.

1. Academic Publications (Scholarly)
   - Written by scholars (highly educated, devotes professional life to the field)
   - Written for other scholars
   - Few photographs or advertisements
   - Uses jargon (terminology only those in the field would understand)
   - Frequently published by associations
   - Most articles follow a prescribed style: Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Method of Data Collection, Results, Analysis, and Conclusion
   - Authors are easily identifiable, credentials are given
   - Does not attempt to entertain

An example of Scholarly Publications is Library Journal.

2. Scholarly Refereed or Peer-Reviewed Publications
   Is a scholarly publication in every way except additionally, articles are reviewed (scrutinized) by a panel of other scholars (“peers”) before being accepted for publication

Examples of Refereed or Peer-Reviewed Journals include JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association, The Journal of Academic Librarianship, and American Economic Review

3. Trade Publications
   - Written by practitioners in a particular field
   - Written for other practitioners in the field
   - Uses jargon (terminology only those in the field would understand)
   - Advertisements are for products and services that pertain to the field
   - Includes photographs and illustrations
   - Authors are easily identifiable, credentials are sometimes given
   - Does not attempt to entertain

Examples of Trade Publications include HR Focus, American Libraries, Psychology Today, and Science News.
4. Magazines (Popular Publications)
- Written by journalists, for the general public
- Glossy pages
- Usually many photographs
- Many advertisements
- Easily understood, does not assume any prior knowledge of the subject
- Attempts to entertain

Examples of Popular publications include *Time, Parent, Sports Illustrated*, and *Readers’ Digest.*

5. Newspaper Publications
- Written by journalists, for the general public
- Printed on newspaper
- Usually some photographs
- Many advertisements
- Easily understood, does not assume any prior knowledge of the subject
- Attempts to entertain and inform


6. Tabloid or Sensational Publications
- Unsigned articles written for the general public
- May have glossy pages or be printed on newspaper, many photographs and advertisements
- Attempts to entertain

Examples of Tabloid or Sensational publication include *Star, National Enquirer,* and *Globe.*