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| 5.4 | Recognising a scientific report |
| **Briefing sheet** |

**Title of the article you are studying**

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**1** You have a copy of a scientific article. In the table are questions likely to be answered in the article. Fill in the table by referring to different parts of the article.

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| **Questions the reader may raise** | **Where the answers can be found** |
| **A** What is the main subject? Who are the researchers? |  |
| **B** Why is the study interesting and important? What questions does it address? |  |
| **C** What is already known about the subject? |  |
| **D** What methods and materials were used in the study? |  |
| **E** What were the results? |  |
| **F** What can be learnt from the results? Do the results answer the questions posed? Do the results confirm the researchers’ assumptions or hypotheses? |  |
| **G** What, if anything, unexpected happened? How can the results be explained? How has the study contributed to understanding the subject? Is there potential for future research in this area? |  |
| **H** What were the sources of information on which the researchers relied? |  |

**2** Discuss the table with the rest of the class.

What are the advantages of having a ‘standard’ format for a scientific article?

What are the different ways that scientists can publish reports of their studies?