Notes on Reading Papers and Leading a Discussion about a Paper For CSB.100/7.89

1) Goals

- What were the goals of the study?
- What are/were the big questions in the field that this study addressed?

2) Hypothesis

- What specific hypothesis/es did the study test?
- What assumptions are these hypotheses based on?

3) System/Methods

- What specific system(s) and methods were chosen? Why?
- What were the pros and cons of these choices?

4) Results

- What were the main results?
- Why are these results interesting/important?
- How do these results relate to what was known previously?
- Are there notable weaknesses in the results?

5) Interpretation

- How were the results interpreted?
- Are there other ways the results might be interpreted?
- Do the authors propose a new model or theory? Is it testable?
- How generally applicable is the model or theory?

6) General

- Are there clear next steps to follow up this paper?
- Why is the paper interesting/important? (or why not?)
- Does the approach/way of thinking of the authors derive from a recognizable academic tradition(s)? Which?

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