Journal Presentation and Discussion

Journal publication is one of the major tools for scientists to communicate their new findings and the major source for scientists to learn new findings, new methodologies, new concepts, and new working models.

**The purpose of journal discussions:**
1. Learn how to read journal publications
2. Learn the research process
   a. Identifying scientific questions
   b. Choosing experimental approaches that are able to address the questions
   c. Interpreting data
   d. Drawing proper conclusions from the data
   e. Defining future research directions.
3. Learn how to write journal publications
4. Learn how to evaluate journal publications

**Active participation is strongly encouraged. Any one of you maybe called on to present any one of the sections during the discussion. You are not expected to understand everything in the papers. Please bring in your questions and try to resolve it during the discussion.**

**How to read journal publications:**

1. **Introduction:**
   a. What is the purpose of the study?
   b. What do we know about the question addressed in this study?
   c. What are the specific questions asked?
   d. What is the biological significance of the question?
   e. What is the working hypothesis?

2. **Methods and results:**
   a. What is the goal of each experiment?
   b. What approaches were used to answer the question(s)?
   c. What results were obtained?
   d. How did authors interpret the data?
   e. What is the take home message of the experiment?
   f. What is the relationship of this experiment with the earlier and later experiments?

3. **Discussion:**
   a. What are the major findings and conclusions?
   b. Are the conclusions supported by the results?
   c. Whether are the results convincing and whether are there alternative approaches?
   d. What new questions are aroused from this study?
   e. Propose experiments to test the new questions and ideas.