Hypothesis Testing

This activity will be different from the previous (and future) activities. You will be summarizing a published journal article that describes a hypothesis test. The write-up will be a 3-5 page paper about the experiment or survey. You will be graded on the clarity of your explanations as well as the organization and flow of the paper. Answer the following questions (in no particular order.)

- Send me an email with the title, author, and journal of the article by Monday 3/29/04, 5pm. (The article should be published with the exception of it being your own work. If this is work that you are doing and is not completely written up, though the hypothesis tests must be complete, you can use your own work. If you have questions about that, please ask.)

For the write-up:

- Describe the motivation of the study (why did they do the study?)

- Comment on how the data were collected (Is this an experiment or an observational study?, Were the data randomly selected or was a convenience sample used?, For what population is this study relevant?, ...)

- What hypothesis is being tested? Is there more than one hypothesis of interest? Are they related?

- Was the hypothesis/es determined before the data were collected or after? (This may be difficult to determine, use your judgment in interpreting the motivation of the research. Does it seem that they were hunting for results or rather inquiring about a particular issue?)

- What was the resulting p-value? What does this say about the hypothesis of interest? What do the authors conclude? Do they also report a corresponding confidence interval?

- Based on what you have learned in this class so far, do you see any flaws in this research? Could you improve the design or the conclusion of the results?