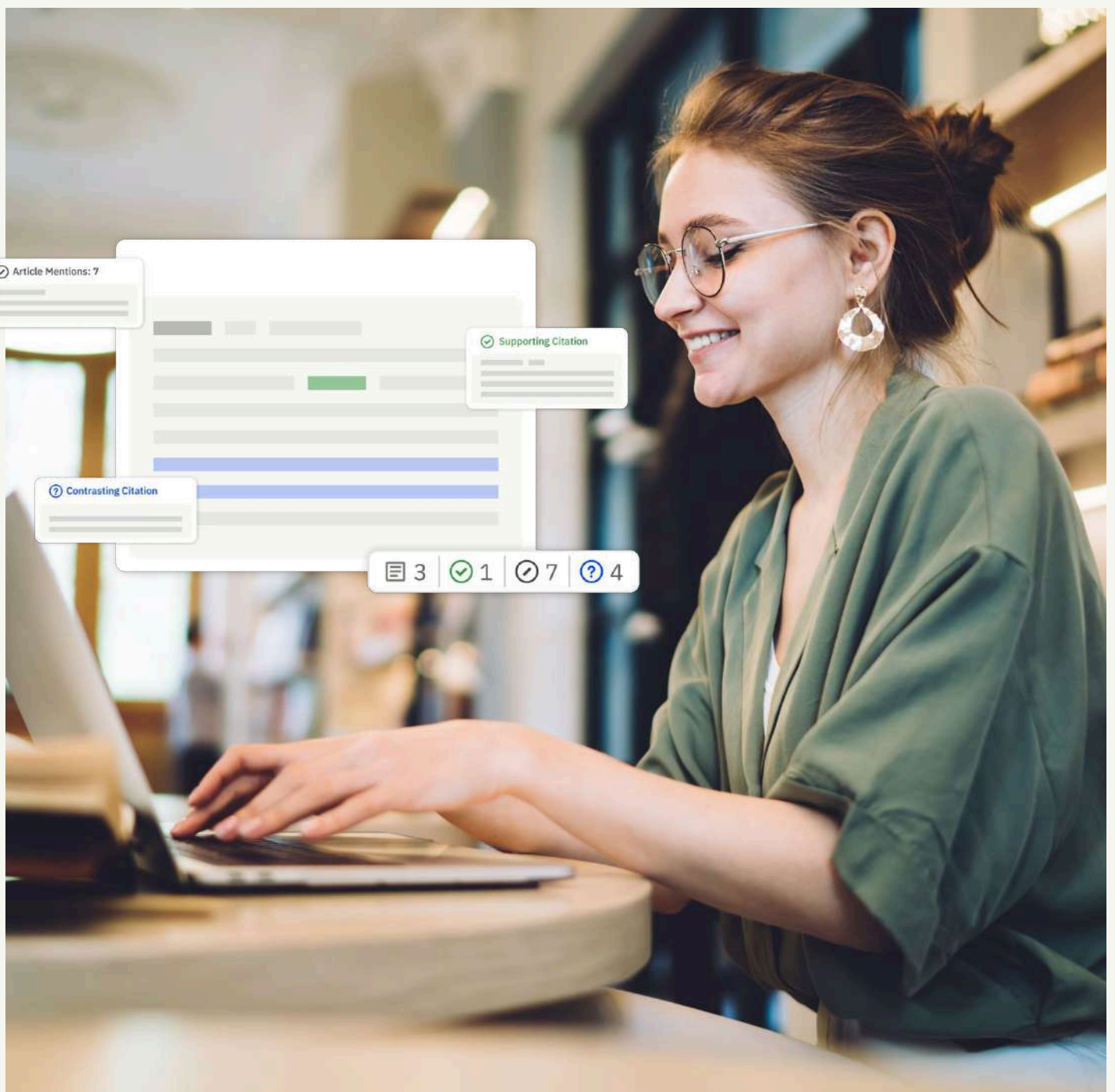


AI Prompt Handbook For Academia

Enhancing Research & Teaching With Scite Assistant





Modern Challenges, Smarter Solutions For Educators

Assistant is your AI teaching and research ally, specifically designed to **navigate the complexities of academia**. Whether you're guiding students through rigorous research or synthesizing the latest studies for your own work, Assistant empowers you to **uncover, analyze, and integrate vast amounts of information**—all with accuracy and control.

Explore how to make the most of Assistant, from understanding its functionality to mastering effective prompting techniques for teaching and research success.

Assistant By Scite

Harness the power of Large Language Models (LLMs) combined with Scite's unique index of Smart Citations to enhance your academic work and classroom engagement.

This Guide Will Help You:

1. Interpret responses from Assistant
2. Understand how Assistant generates answers
3. Craft more effective prompts for more accurate and relevant results
4. Take control of search strategies to refine your research process
5. Use Assistant to engage with collections of articles, whether from within Scite or from other research tools used



assistant by scite_



How does the structure of a protein affect its function?



Proteins are essential for the proper functioning of living organisms, and their structure plays a crucial role in their function. The structure of a protein is determined by its amino acid sequence, which in turn affects its folding and stability [6]. The interactions between charged amino acids significantly influence the structure and function of proteins [1]. The number of hydrophobic methylenes linking the backbone to the charged functionality of amino acids affects protein structure stability [1]. Protein secondary structures, such as β -sheet structures, are the fundamental three-dimensional building blocks of protein structures [1]. Intrinsically disordered proteins (IDPs) are a family of proteins that fail to form rigid 3-D structures under physiological conditions, either along their entire lengths or only in localized regions [2]. IDPs exist as dynamic ensembles within which atom positions and backbone Ramachandran angles exhibit extreme temporal fluctuations without specific equilibrium values [2].

What do you need help with?



References

Reference #1

Longer charged amino acids favor β -strand formation in hairpin peptides

Jingyuan Chang¹, Jing-Yuan Chang², Nian-Zhi Li³ et al. 2021J Pep Sci

3 1 7 0

Interactions between charged amino acids significantly influence the structure and function of proteins. The encoded charged amino acids Asp, Glu, Arg, and Lys have different number of hydrophobic methylenes linking the backbone to the charged functionality...

[View full text](#) [Add to Dashboard](#)

Reference #2

Understanding protein non-folding

Vladimir N. Uversky¹, A. Keith Dunker² 2010 *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA) - Proteins and Proteomics*

1017 24 1112 0

This review describes the family of intrinsically disordered proteins, members of which fail to form rigid 3-D structures under physiological conditions, either along their entire lengths or only in localized regions...

[View full text](#) [Add to Dashboard](#)

Anatomy Of An Assistant Response


Assistant is designed with **transparency** at its core, providing educators with **clear insights** into its responses and the ability to **guide and control outputs**.

- Understand **how** and **why** it generated an answer.
- Control it through prompting strategies and settings.
- Export information easily to integrate into your classroom materials and scholarly work.


The screenshot shows an AI assistant interface with several key components highlighted by blue arrows and text labels:

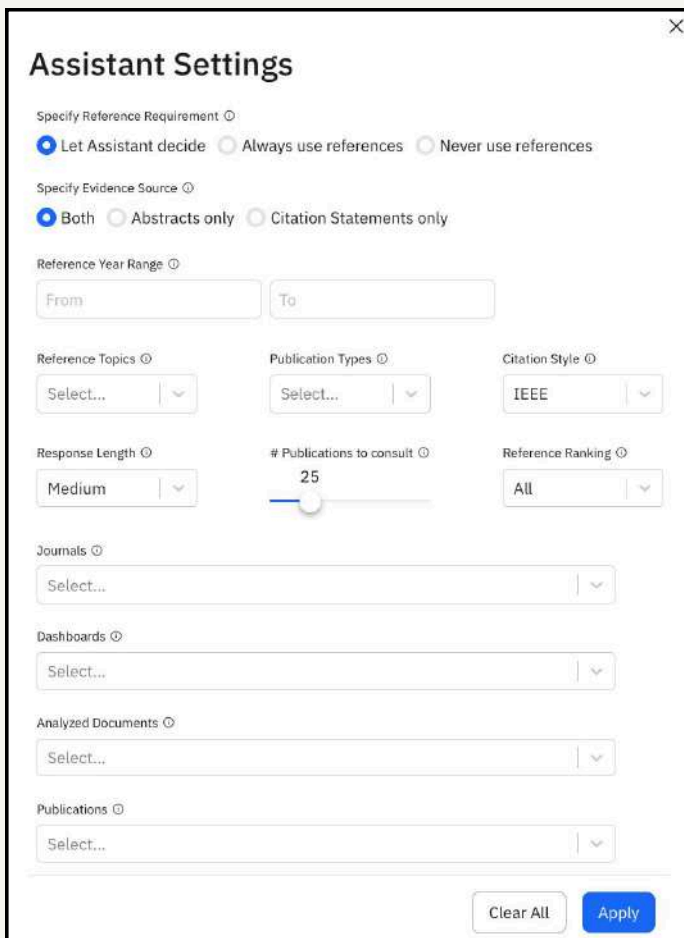
- Table of contents to know where you are:** Located on the left side of the interface, it lists the current question and a previous question: "What is a tertiary protein?".
- Your prompt:** The main question being asked: "How does the structure of a protein affect its function?".
- Assistant's response:** The main body of text providing a detailed answer about protein structure, function, and the impact of mutations.
- Your follow-ups:** A section below the main response with a prompt: "What is a tertiary protein?".
- Export references used across all responses:** A button labeled "Export References" is located in the top left of the response area.
- View and edit search strategy and reference selection process:** A sidebar on the right titled "References" shows a list of search results with snippets and citation information.
- Reference list used to support the claims in this response, with relevant snippets from full-text / abstracts for your review:** This points to the "References" sidebar, which lists several scientific papers with their titles and authors.

How It Works

- 1/** You prompt.
 - 2/** Assistant decides if your prompt needs references.
 - 2a/** If you need references, devise a search strategy.
 - 3/** Run searches in our database, with your settings.
 - 4/** Re-rank publications using our secret sauce model and your settings.
 - 5/** Summarize references and relevant snippets / abstracts into an answer, with linked in-text references.
 - 6/** Assistant fact checks itself.
 - 2b/** If no references are needed, the prompt directly passes to LLM and performs your task.
 - 7/** Returns response.
- 

Settings Let You Control Assistant's Behavior

The  icon gives you quick access to Settings.



The screenshot shows the 'Assistant Settings' dialog box with the following options:

- Specify Reference Requirement:** Let Assistant decide, Always use references, Never use references
- Specify Evidence Source:** Both, Abstracts only, Citation Statements only
- Reference Year Range:** From: [] To: []
- Reference Topics:** [Select...]
- Publication Types:** [Select...]
- Citation Style:** [IEEE]
- Response Length:** [Medium]
- # Publications to consult:** [25]
- Reference Ranking:** [All]
- Journals:** [Select...]
- Dashboards:** [Select...]
- Analyzed Documents:** [Select...]
- Publications:** [Select...]

Buttons: [Clear All] [Apply]

Here you can:

- Specify year ranges, topics, publication types, or journal names as filters when searching for papers.
- Dictate which papers or collections Assistant uses.
- Control the length of Assistant responses.
- Change citation styles in Assistant to align responses with academic requirements, whether it's IEEE, APA, MLA, or another preferred format.
- ...and more!

Pro Tips

Improving Reference Selection

Task

We want to learn about the minimum wage and its impact on society, as well as get some sense of what the research says about changes to the minimum wage.

Attempt #1

Your Prompt

Minimum wage

Settings

Default

Assistant Search Strategy

- Minimum wage and poverty
- Minimum wage
- Minimum wage effects on economy

Feedback

- Generic prompt creates generic search strategy, which increases the scope of documents searched, but decreases the likelihood of relevance.
- Lack of specificity creates lack of focus in document selection, information retrieval, and answer generation.

Enhancing document selection and information retrieval is crucial for improving Assistant's answer quality.

Let's try a better prompt and see if it changes the search strategy.

Attempt #2

Your Prompt

Give me an overview of the effects of raising the minimum wage.

Settings

Default

Assistant Search Strategy

- Impact of minimum wage increases
- Consequences of higher minimum wage
- Effects of raising the minimum wage

Feedback

- A well-crafted prompt generates a more tailored search strategy, focusing on the aspects that matter most to you (e.g., adverse effects).
- This improves the relevance of the selected references and the generated answer.

Pro Tips

Improving Reference Selection

The previous example was an improvement, but what if we wanted to restrict it to only use documents after 2018?

Attempt #3

Your Prompt

Using papers published after 2018, give me an overview of the effects of raising the minimum wage.

Settings

Default, with a year > 2018 filter automatically applied from the prompt

Assistant Search Strategy

- Impact of minimum wage increases
- Consequences of higher minimum wage
- Effects of raising the minimum wage

The screenshot shows a settings interface with the following elements:

- Reference Year Range**: A field containing '2018' and a 'To' field.
- Publication Types**: A dropdown menu with 'Select...' as the current selection.
- Citation Style**: A dropdown menu with 'APA' as the current selection.

Feedback

- You can specify the year range within the prompt by saying after or before a year, or between a year range. Assistant will automatically apply the correct setting filter.
- Note that you can also directly apply this in the settings menu without relying on the prompt.

Cool, so you can fine-tune the search process based on attributes like publication year.

Well, what if you notice that it's picking documents from journals you aren't interested in? You also can specify journals explicitly through Settings.

Attempt #4

Your Prompt

Using papers published after 2018, give me an overview of the effects of raising the minimum wage.

Settings

Default, with a year > 2018 filter automatically applied from the prompt

Assistant Search Strategy

- Impact of minimum wage increases
- Consequences of higher minimum wage
- Effects of raising the minimum wage

Feedback

- While using the same prompt as before, we refine the search through the Settings menu, limiting it to the set of journals that align with our specific interests.

Pro Tips

Edit Assistant Search Strategy

Task

You ran an Assistant prompt and noticed some weird or missing searches, but it's too hard to figure out how to re-prompt to change the search strategy.

Approach

- Go to the Search Strategy tab after the response is generated.
- Click on Edit Searches.
- Add a new or revise an existing search strategy.
- Apply your changes and Assistant will re-run your prompt using the new searches.

Bonus Tips

You can inspect the searches used by clicking on them to view the raw results in our classic search interface.

Assistant searches can also support boolean queries. You just have to use uppercase for the operators (“AND”, “OR”, “NOT”).

For more insight into boolean or advanced queries, visit our [Search Builder](#).

Searches Used

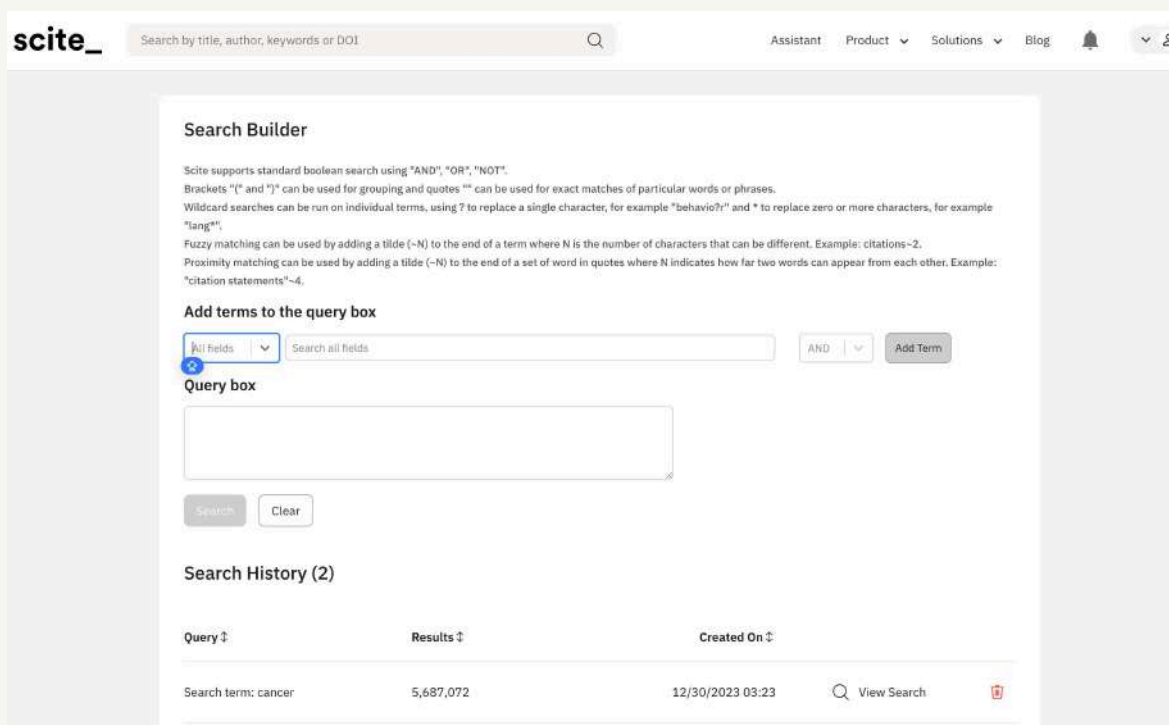
These are the searches that Assistant ran to find references. You can manually edit each search, or add new search strategies based on your expertise.

Edit Searches 

[impact of minimum wage increases](#)
[consequences of higher minimum wage](#)
[effects of raising the minimum wage](#)

Publications Consulted

Here are the top 60 publications that Assistant used to draft the initial response. The final reference list might be lower than this as some can be excluded during fact-checking.



scite_ Search by title, author, keywords or DOI

Assistant Product Solutions Blog

Search Builder

Scite supports standard boolean search using "AND", "OR", "NOT".
 Brackets "(" and ")" can be used for grouping and quotes "" can be used for exact matches of particular words or phrases.
 Wildcard searches can be run on individual terms, using ? to replace a single character, for example "behavio?*" and * to replace zero or more characters, for example "lang*".
 Fuzzy matching can be used by adding a tilde (~N) to the end of a term where N is the number of characters that can be different. Example: citations~2.
 Proximity matching can be used by adding a tilde (~N) to the end of a set of word in quotes where N indicates how far two words can appear from each other. Example: "citation statements"~4.

Add terms to the query box

All Fields Search all fields AND Add Term

Query box

Search Clear

Search History (2)

Query	Results	Created On
Search term: cancer	5,687,072	12/30/2023 03:23

View Search

Pro Tips

Chat With Your Dashboards

Task

You did a literature review for articles in another tool, and want to ask questions about that set of articles. Maybe see which of them contain information relevant to your questions?

Approach

- Create a custom dashboard on that set of DOIs.
- Chat with the dashboard in different ways (we'll go through a few examples).

1. Go to [Create Dashboard](#).
2. Upload or enter the DOIs from any other tool—or your reference manager.
3. Within your dashboard, click on the green chat icon on the top right to Chat with Dashboard.

Name*

Demo Dashboard

Description

This is an example dashboard for our sample task!

DOIs*

10.1186/cc7121,
10.1093/brain/awn044,
10.1038/nature09165,
10.1016/j.biopsych.2005.08.012

DOIs entered manually can be comma separated, or new-line separated (if for example you are copying over an Excel column). Want to upload more than 1,000 DOIs? [Email us.](#)

You may alternatively [upload a CSV file](#) consisting of only DOIs. Once submitted, we'll validate it and populate the list accordingly.

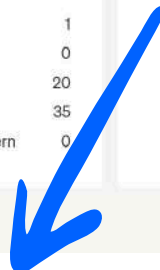
demo_csv.csv



Example Dashboard Set alert | [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) Chat Refresh Share Delete

Last Updated: 2024-12-10

<p>Total Articles</p> <p>527</p> <p><small>527 total publication(s)</small></p>	<p>Citation Types</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Supporting</td> <td>9,883</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mentioning</td> <td>308,180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contrasting</td> <td>1,380</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>336,304</td> </tr> </table>	Supporting	9,883	Mentioning	308,180	Contrasting	1,380	Total	336,304	<p>Editorial Notices</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Retractions</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Withdrawals</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrections</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Errata</td> <td>35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expression of Concern</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table>	Retractions	1	Withdrawals	0	Corrections	20	Errata	35	Expression of Concern	0	<p>2023 scite Index</p> <p>0.89 5-year SI</p> <p>0.93 (2-year SI) 0.88 (Lifetime SI)</p>
Supporting	9,883																				
Mentioning	308,180																				
Contrasting	1,380																				
Total	336,304																				
Retractions	1																				
Withdrawals	0																				
Corrections	20																				
Errata	35																				
Expression of Concern	0																				



Your AI Research Partner

scite Assistant gives you answers with insight and control into its thought process.

Ask a question... (type '/' for menu)

ⓘ Settings ⓘ Sources

Using: Dashboard: Demo Dashboard

Pro Tips

Chat With Your Dashboards

Alright, we made a dashboard and figured out how to make sure Assistant uses it. You can also accomplish this by opening the Settings menu and picking your dashboard.

Task #1

Write an introduction using only the articles from our dashboard.

Your Prompt

Write an introduction to a research paper summarizing information in these articles.

Assistant Search Strategy

- Economic effects of minimum wage increase
- Minimum wage and poverty reduction
- Minimum wage impact on employment

Feedback

- Note that the search strategy uses a wildcard, telling Assistant to search everything within the set of articles from the dashboard you provided.
- The answer attempts to complete your task based on that set of DOIs, where the relevant information is available.
- Assistant will, under these settings, only use articles from that dashboard which are relevant for your task.

Settings

Default, with dashboard filter applied on Demo Dashboard

The screenshot displays the Assistant interface. On the left, a chat window shows a prompt: "Write an introduction to a research paper summarizing information in these articles". Below the prompt, three research articles are listed with their abstracts. The first article is by Maunakea et al. (2010) about DNA methylation. The second is by Lesser et al. (2008) about cortical responses. The third is by Morelli et al. (2008) about phenylephrine and norepinephrine. A search bar at the bottom of the chat window contains the text "Ask a question... (type '/' for menu)" and a "Using: Dashboard: Demo Dashboard" indicator.

On the right, the "References" panel shows search results for the query. It lists three articles with their abstracts and citation information. The first article is by Alika K. Maunakea et al. (2010) in Nature, with 1,506 citations and a DOI of 10.1038/43113a. The second article is by Ronald P. Lesser et al. (2008) in Brain, with 58 citations and a DOI of 10.1093/brain/aww001. The third article is by Andrea Morelli et al. (2008) in Critical Care, with 124 citations and a DOI of 10.1093/critcare/cdn001.

Pro Tips

Chat With Your Dashboards

Okay, so we know how to chat with a dashboard. What if we want to ensure Assistant uses each article, and get a tabular view to see if each article answers a specific question?

Task #2

List the key findings of each of the articles in our dashboard. Do it for each one.

Attempt #3

Your Prompt

What is the key finding of each of these studies?

Assistant Search Strategy

- Minimum wage and economic growth
- Minimum wage and poverty reduction
- Impact of minimum wage increases

Feedback

- We search each article in the dashboard for information on key findings.
- With "Structured Responses" enabled, Assistant generates a tabular view, providing specific answers to your question for each article in your dashboard.
- You can export that table.
- Power User Tip: We're continuously enhancing our product features, like our table workflow, to make our solutions even more intuitive—[check out our release notes](#) anytime to see the latest updates and improvements!

Settings

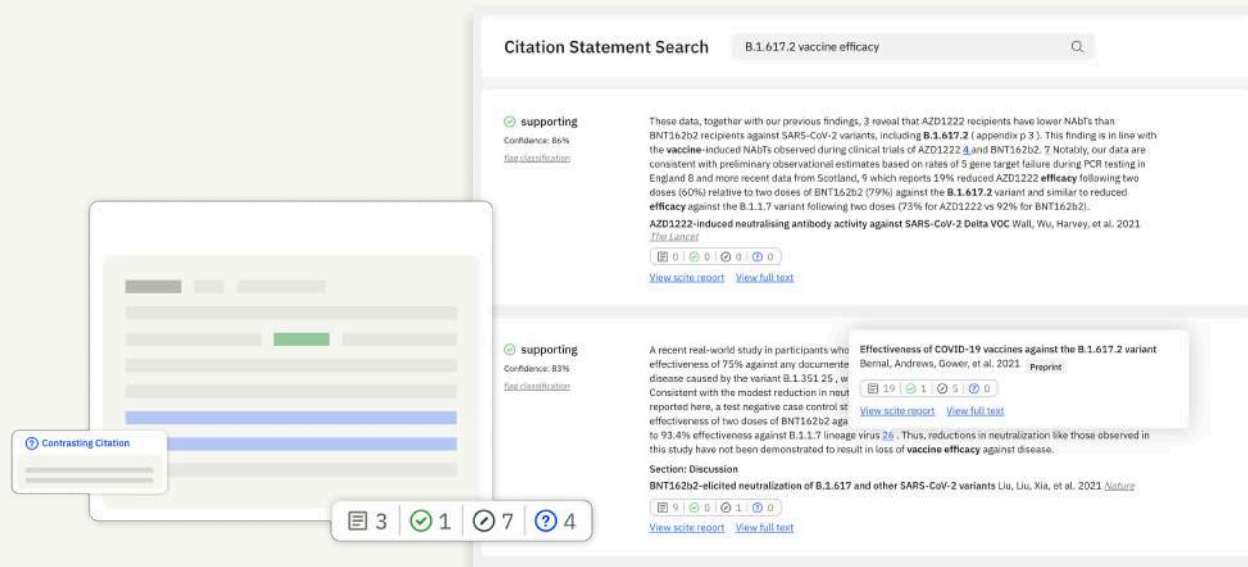
Default, with dashboard filter applied on [Demo Dashboard](#)

Setting for "Structured Responses" is turned on

↳ What is the key finding of each of these studies? ✉

# ↑	Response	Reference
1	According to (Lesser et al., 2008), the key finding of their study is that short-term variations in response distribution to cortical stimulation can occur in intact cortex, influenced by local brain states and functional brain architecture.	Short-term variations in response distribution to cortical stimulation 2008 Brain 📄 58 🗨️ 4 📊 37 🌐 2
2	According to (Maunakea et al., 2010), the key finding of their study is the conserved role of intragenic DNA methylation in regulating alternative promoters, as evidenced by the investigation of the human SHANK3 locus and its mouse homologue, which showed that tissue-specific DNA methylation controls intragenic promoter activity both in vitro and in vivo.	Conserved role of intragenic DNA methylation in regulating alternative promoters 2010 Nature 📄 1,506 🗨️ 93 📊 1,309 🌐 5
3	The key finding of 's study is that in septic shock patients, replacing norepinephrine with phenylephrine for hemodynamic support leads to more significant hepatosplanchnic vasoconstriction compared to norepinephrine (Morelli et al., 2008).	Phenylephrine versus norepinephrine for initial hemodynamic support of patients with septic shock: a randomized, controlled trial 2008 Critical Care 📄 128 🗨️ 1 📊 90 🌐 1
4	found a significant association between amygdala hyperactivity in response to harsh faces and the severity of social anxiety in individuals with generalized social phobia. This key finding highlights the role of amygdala activation in processing negative social stimuli and its impact on the manifestation of social anxiety symptoms. Phan et al. (2006)	Association between Amygdala Hyperactivity to Harsh Faces and Severity of Social Anxiety in Generalized Social Phobia 2006 Biological Psychiatry 📄 463 🗨️ 29 📊 326 🌐 6

Smart Citations: The Foundation Of Our Tools & Your Work



Unlike other tools that rely solely on metadata, Scite offers unique access to full-text scholarly articles.

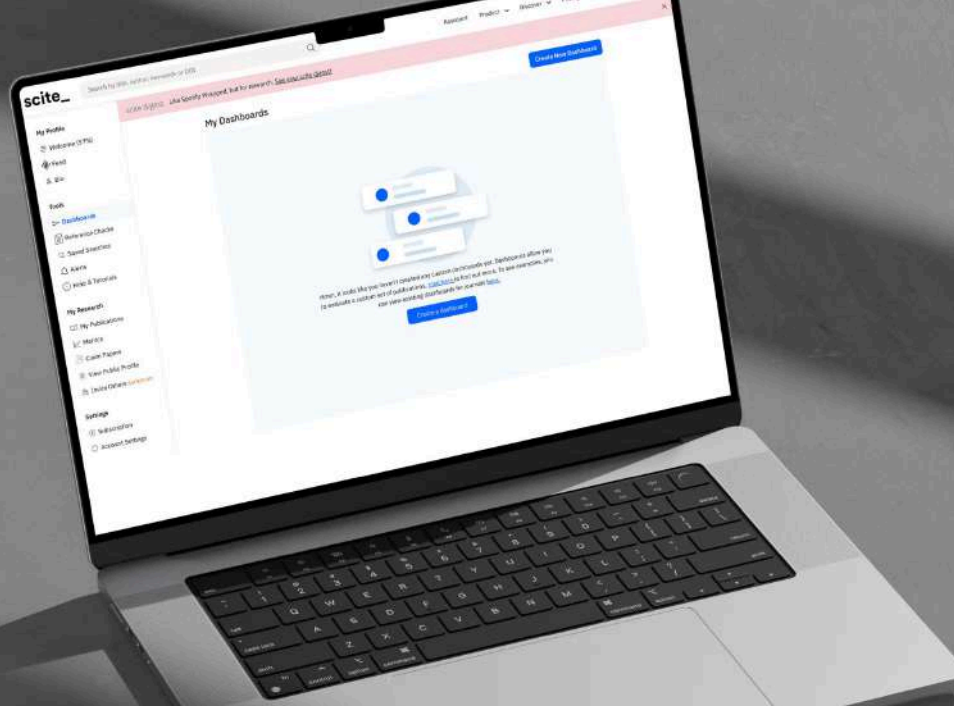
This innovative index of over one billion Smart Citations powers Assistant, as well as other features, providing deeper, more reliable insights for teaching and academic research.

Our pipeline indexes and classifies sentences directly from full-text citations for a more nuanced understanding of academic work.

Read our published paper to learn more about how Scite works [here](#).

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The overwhelming volume of information presents challenges for faculty and researchers in ensuring the trustworthiness and effectiveness of academic content. Educators need tools that simplify the process of acquiring knowledge while enhancing the credibility and integrity of scholarly materials.

Scite, and the full Research Solutions product family, offers a step forward. By pairing AI with document delivery and reference management, we equip users with powerful tools to navigate the complexities of academic literature with confidence.

Talk to our experts today to learn more about enhancing the way you work with academic literature so you can contribute with confidence and reliability.

Contact Us

USA Phone: +1 (310) 477 0354

Europe Phone: +49 (221) 169 125 83

sales@researchsolutions.com

www.researchsolutions.com

