Ashok et. al 2003

1. What is a positive IOD event and how does it affect ISMR?
2. What is a negative IOD event and how does it affect ISMR?
3. What are the AGCM experiments and do you think they provide an adequate tool for analysis? How realistic are these ensembles when compared to the observational analyses?
4. What is the reason for the decline in El Nino’s impact on Indian Summer Monsoon Rainfall (ISMR) since the 1980s?
5. How does La Nina impact the affects of negative IOD events on ISMR?
6. In summary how do the affects of ENSO on ISMR and the effects of the IOD on ISMR relate to one another? What does this mean for IOD as a predictor of ISMR?
7. Knowing what we do about ENSO variability now – what is something this study may have overlooked? How might we expect changing climate patterns to affect this IOD/ENSO relationship with ISMR?

Saji and Yamagata 2003

1. What are the two anomalous SST patterns this pattern mentions and which will the paper be discussing? Why do you think this is?
2. What mechanisms does the paper cite as causes of IOD and how do they differ from East to West?
3. What time period does the paper use to compare ENSO events to IOD events? What do the authors conclude?
4. What is the author’s alternate hypothesis?
5. There are a lot of assumptions taking place in this paper. Name them
6. What was the field significance test and what did it yield?
7. What do the results of table 2 mean in context of past papers? (hint: think ENSO + monsoons)
8. How does IOD affect the extratropics, and what could this mean for the region as climate changes?