Research Tools: Scientific Writing Tools for Writing Literature Review and a Paper

Nader Ale Ebrahim
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Nader Ale Ebrahim, PhD
Visiting Research Fellow
Research Support Unit
Centre for Research Services
Research Management & Innovation Complex
University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

aleebrahim@um.edu.my
@aleebrahim

www.researcherid.com/rid/C-2414-2009
http://scholar.google.com/citations

12 February 2016
Research Tools: Literature Search and Scientific Source Comparison

Nader Ale Ebrahim, PhD
Research Support Unit
Centre for Research Services
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University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
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http://scholar.google.com/citations

Abstract: “Research Tools” can be defined as vehicles that broadly facilitate research and related activities. Scientific tools enable researchers to collect, organize, analyze, visualize and publicized research outputs. Dr. Nader has collected over 700 tools that enable students to follow the correct path in research and to ultimately produce high-quality research outputs with more accuracy and efficiency. It is assembled as an interactive Web-based mind map, titled “Research Tools”, which is updated periodically. “Research Tools” consists of a hierarchical set of nodes. It has four main nodes: (1) Searching the literature, (2) Writing a paper, (3) Targeting suitable journals, and (4) Enhancing visibility and impact of the research. Several free tools can be found in the child nodes. In this workshop some tools as an example from the part 2 (Writing a paper) will be described. The e-skills learned from the workshop are useful across various research disciplines and research institutions.

Keywords: H-index, Improve citations, Research tools, Bibliometrics, Literature review
Problem statements

Research can be time consuming and sometimes tedious. The following statements capture some of the main concerns of the researchers as faced in the research process:

“I just join as a new postgraduate student and I am not sure how to do a literature search”
“I have been in research for some time now but I spend a lot of time to get the articles I want”
“I am sure I have downloaded the article but I am not able to find it”
“I wanted to write a new paper, how can I manage the references in the shortest possible time?”
“I have many references, some of my old papers, and some of my current research. Sometimes, they are so many that I can’t recall where I have kept them in my folders!”

........

“I have written an article and I am not able to find a proper Journal”
"I want to increase the citation of my papers, how can I do?"

Can research become, easier, more fun and more result-oriented? The answer to this question is YES. We need an effective search strategy which can save hours of wasted research time and provide a clear direction for your research.
learning outcomes

• Ability to read a paper
• Ability to write an academic paragraph
• Ability to define, recognize and avoid accidental plagiarism
• Ability to cite bibliographic references correctly in proper style (MLA, APA, IEEE, etc) in order to construct bibliographies and works cited in research papers and thesis

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How to Read a Paper
1-The first pass

The first pass is a quick scan to get a bird’s-eye view of the paper. You can also decide whether you need to do any more passes. This pass should take about five to ten minutes and consists of the following steps:

1. Carefully read the title, abstract, and introduction
2. Read the section and sub-section headings, but ignore everything else
3. Read the conclusions
4. Glance over the references, mentally ticking off the ones you’ve already read.

1- The second pass

In the second pass, read the paper with greater care, but ignore details such as proofs. It helps to jot down the key points, or to make comments in the margins, as you read. The second pass should take up to an hour. You should be able to summarize the main idea of the paper, with supporting evidence, to someone else.

1. Look carefully at the figures, diagrams and other illustrations in the paper. Pay special attention to graphs.
2. Remember to mark relevant unread references for further reading (this is a good way to learn more about the background of the paper).

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1- The third pass

To fully understand a paper, particularly if you are a reviewer, requires a third pass. The key to the third pass is to attempt to virtually re-implement the paper: that is, making the same assumptions as the authors, re-create the work. By comparing this re-creation with the actual paper, you can easily identify not only a paper’s innovations, but also its hidden failings and assumptions.

This pass can take about four or five hours for beginners, and about an hour for an experienced reader.

Indexing desktop search tool
dtSearch
Google Desktop
Windows Search

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stances and offers related research propositions. The paper also discusses the role of the Internet in **new product** performance. Finally, the paper concludes with managerial and research implications.

1. **New product development** process and the role of the Internet

Past research has consistently shown that a high-quality **new product development** process is one of the most critical success factors in **new product development** [8,10–12]. As a result, it has offered numerous processes that firms can use when developing their **new products**. Cooper [13] defines a **new product development** process as a formal blueprint, roadmap, template, or thought process for driving a **new product** project from the idea to market launch and beyond. The process involves predetermined set of stages and each stage consists of a set of prescribed, cross-functional and parallel activities. Each stage is preceded by a gate, controlling the flow of the process and providing a decision checkpoint in the process. Because of the stages and the

with the first and second-generation processes, the third-generation process emphasizes efficiency and effectiveness in the **new product development** process through four fundamental areas. First, it is fluid, which means that there are overlaps in stages for greater speed. Second, it involves fuzzy gates, reducing the rigidity of criteria used in the gates and allowing conditional or situational considerations of the activities. Third, it is more focused in terms of prioritizing projects. Finally, it is flexible, suggesting that each **new product** is unique and has its own unique **development process** [13].

There are also compelling issues that indicate that **new product development** process may not be uniform across firms and **products**. Takeuchi and Nanoka [14] argue that today’s rapidly changing and competitive market conditions require firms to adopt a flexible and fast **new product development** process and that a holistic “rugby” style **new product development** might be needed to respond to the conditions. With this approach, **new product teams** move through all phases of the **development** together, passing the ball back and forth as they develop **new products**. Based on a case study, the authors concluded that it is possible to
Search Request: Questionnaire design

Total files: 259
Total hits: 1,852

Front_Cover.PDF

Hits: 8
Location: D:\Nader\UM\UM\Useful articles\Other Information\Doctorate\SG\Methods\Front_Cover.PDF

Size: 242,702 Last modified: 7/9/2012

[Page 1 Paragraph 27]

a standard form on which facts, comments and attitudes can be recorded, and facilitate data processing. This new edition of Questionnaire Design explains the role of questionnaires in market research, and looks at different types of questionnaire and when and how they
Contextual Thesaurus

Translate from English to English to explore alternate ways of expressing the same idea. (Learn more)

In the competitive market, virtual teams represent a growing response to the need for fastest time-to-market, low-cost and rapid solutions to complex organizational
WhiteSmoke Writer
Ginger Proofreader
Microsoft Word
Google Docs
Office Live
Adobe Acrobat Professional
DropBox
A small number of studies exclusively focused on the virtual R&D teams, for example [21-24] and none of them concentrated on the virtual R&D teams for NPD in SMEs. This paper summary the key findings of earlier works on different aspects of virtual R&D teams in SMEs and establishes it rationale in new product development (NPD). It highlights the gaps and weaknesses in the existing literature on virtual teams in R&D management and in new product development in SMEs. Finally, it identifies the future research directions in the area of concern.

2-Review search methodology

Collaborative R&D activities involving SMEs has wide coverage. It applies to various activities ranging from information exchange to new products development. This review article is based on dependable and reputed publications. It mainly covers aspects like SMEs characteristics, scope of virtual R&D teams and their relationship in new product development (NPD). The articles are
We report the relevant result of an online survey study.

Abstract—In this paper, we present our more than two years research experiences on virtual R&D teams in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and draws conclusions, giving special attention to the structure of virtual teams required to support education-industry collaboration. We report the relevant result of an online survey study. The online questionnaire was emailed by using the simple random sampling method to 947 manufacturing SMEs. The findings of this study show that SMEs in Malaysia and Iran are willing to use virtual teams for collaboration and the platform for industry-education collaboration is ready and distance between team members or differences in time zones, are not barriers to industry-education collaborations.
Avoid plagiarism
We use plagiarism Detection
( ) Similarity index (checked by iThenticate) is high, please revise to keep a Similarity Index \(\leq 30\%\) and single source matches are not >6\%.
Objective Structured Clinical Examination: An optimized evaluation method

Commentary

Abstract
This article was retracted from publication due to it is a copied version of the original publication in “Oman Medical Journal” (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3191703/?report=classic)

The journal is not hesitated to retract any duplicated articles or fake papers from publication.
Retraction: Retraction notice

It has been brought to the attention of the PLOS ONE editors that substantial parts of the text in this article were appropriated from text in the following publications:


PLOS ONE therefore retracts this article due to the identified case of plagiarism. PLOS ONE apologizes to the authors of the publications above and to the readers. (comment on this retraction)
Penalty for Plagiarism

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PLOS ONE therefore retracts this article due to the identified case of plagiarism. PLOS ONE apologizes to the authors of the publications above and to the readers. (comment on this retraction)


Bahram Mobitari and Kobra Pouramini


Hereby, the authors of the above-mentioned paper retract their work due to the identification of plagiarism. The authors apologize for any inconvenience caused.

Eight nano-baskets of calix[4]linden-1,2-crown-3, crown-4, -crown-5, -crown-6 were synthesized and their binding abilities towards alkaloids and alkaloid derivatives were studied using differential pulse voltammetry. The novelty of this study was focused on the application of this method to the complexation of smaller atoms, such as nitrogen and oxygen. The results revealed that the binding of the smaller atoms increased with the size of the calix[4]linden-1,2-crown-3, crown-4, -crown-5, -crown-6. The oxidation peak of carboxylic acids was decreased. Moreover, the redox behaviors of the smaller atoms increased significantly with the size of the calix[4]linden-1,2-crown-3, crown-4, -crown-5, -crown-6. The authors apologize for any inconvenience caused.
Absolute quantification of free tumor cells in the peripheral blood of gastric cancer patients

N. Bayat¹, M.M. Mokhtari¹, M. Rezaei Tavirani¹, A. Baradaran-rafi², S. Rahman Zadeh³, S. Heidari-Keshel¹ and F. Ghasemvand⁴

¹Proteomics Research Center, Faculty of Paramedical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
²Optimistic Research Center, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

Corresponding author: S. Heidari-Keshel
Email: seied_heidari@shb.ac.ir

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Accepted May 2, 2014
Published June 16, 2014
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2167-0864.100028

ABSTRACT: Gastric cancer remains the third most common cancer in the world. Metastatic disease is a major cause of death in about half of the patients; therefore, early diagnosis is crucial for successful outcome. This study applied a sensitive method for the detection of circulating tumor cells using specific tumor markers for early detection. A total of 30 blood samples from 30 patients and 40 age-matched healthy controls were collected for the study. Circulating mRNA levels of two tumor markers, tumor endothelial marker 8 (TEM-8) and carcinoembryogenic antigen (CEA) were evaluated using absolute quantitative real-time PCR assay in the Stratagene Mx-3000P real-time PCR system. GAPDH was used to normalize the data. TEM-8 and CEA were detected in patients' blood more than in controls, 2240 vs 940, P = 0.005, and 3040 vs 1140, P = 0.008, respectively. The mRNA level of these markers in patients was significantly higher in comparison to normal controls (P = 0.018, 0.001). This panel showed an overall sensitivity of 64% and specificity of 73%. Statistical analysis for demographic variants did not show any significant differences. Both markers were detected more frequently and at significantly higher levels in blood samples of patients.
THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN RETRACTED. See Clinics (Sao Paulo). 2013 October; 68(10): 1382.

An overview of recently published medical papers in Brazilian scientific journals

Mauricio Rocha e Silva and Ariane Gomes

Additional article information

Abstract
Outside of academia the problem of plagiarism continues to generate headlines and scandals for politicians. In Germany, two prominent cabinet members have been forced to step down due to allegations of plagiarism in their doctoral dissertations. Meanwhile, in Canada, the head of the nation’s largest school district was forced to resign in the face of plagiarism allegations, and plagiarism scandals have also embroiled a senator in the Philippines, the prime minister of Romania, and several members of the Russian Duma.
The COSMO-RS method is an advanced method for the quantitative calculation of solvation mixture thermodynamics based on quantum chemistry. It was developed by Andreas Klamt and is distributed as the software COSMOtherm by his company COSMOlogic (as well as in the form of several remakes by others).

Some Nigerian researchers have used the software (without a license) and report a tremendously and completely unbelievably good correlation ($r^2=0.992$) between the predicted results and experimental data for the logKow (octanol water partition coefficient) of ionic liquids.

How do I avoid plagiarism?

• only hand in your own and original work.
• indicate precisely and accurately when you have used information provided by someone else, i.e. referencing must be done in accordance with a recognised system.
• indicate whether you have downloaded information from the Internet.
• never use someone else’s electronic storage media, artwork, pictures or graphics as if it were your own.
• never copy directly without crediting the source
• do not translate without crediting the source
• do not paraphrase someone else’s work without crediting the source
• do not piece together sections of the work of others into a new whole
• do not resubmit your own or other’s previously graded work
• do not commit collusion (unauthorised collaboration, presenting work as one’s own independent work, when it has been produced in whole or in part in collusion with other people)
• ghost-writing – you should not make use of ghost writers or professional agencies in the production of your work or submit material which has been written on your behalf
10 Major source of plagiarism

1. **Replication**: Submitting a paper to multiple publications in an attempt to get it published more than once
2. **Duplication**: Re-using work from one’s own previous studies and papers without attribution
3. **Secondary Source**: Using a secondary source, but only citing the primary sources contained within the secondary one
4. **Misleading Attribution**: Removing an author’s name, despite significant contributions; an inaccurate or insufficient list of authors who contributed to a manuscript
5. **Invalid Source**: Referencing either an incorrect or nonexistent source
6. **Paraphrasing**: Taking the words of another and using them alongside original text without attribution
7. **Repetitive Research**: Repeating data or text from a similar study with a similar methodology in a new study without proper attribution
8. **Unethical Collaboration**: Accidentally or intentionally use each other’s written work without proper attribution; when people who are working together violate a code of conduct
9. **Verbatim**: Copying of another’s words and works without providing proper attribution, indentation or quotation marks
10. **Complete**: Taking a manuscript from another researcher and resubmitting it under one’s own name

Source: iThenticate (2013) SURVEY SUMMARY | Research Ethics: Decoding Plagiarism and Attribution in Research

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Submit Paper: by File Upload (Step 1 of 3)

Choose a paper item submission method:

- Single file upload

First name ●

Nader

Last name ●

Aleebrahim

Submission title ●

First Draft

The paper you are submitting will not be added to any paper repository.

Requirements for single file upload:

- File must be less than 20 MB
- The maximum paper length is 400 pages.
- File types allowed: MS Word, WordPerfect, PostScript, PDF, HTML, RTF, OpenOffice (ODT), Hangul (HMP) and plain text.
  If your file exceeds 20 MB, read suggestions to meet requirements.

Browse for the file to upload ●

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Organize the references
(Reference management) tool
1. What is Reference Management Tool?
Reference Management Tools are software tools that can help you organize your references and citation, create reference lists/bibliographies, collaborate with others online, and discover the latest research in your subject areas.

2. General Features
Maintain huge number of references for your dissertations or research projects
Manage, organize, cite and collaborate
Create and format references in various citation styles instantly
Import citations from databases, library catalogues, websites and more
Work on your references anytime, anywhere

Source: https://www.lib.polyu.edu.hk/research-support/tools/ref-management-tools
Use a reference management tool!

EndNoteWeb Mendeley Etc.

Your article citations reference list/bibliography

article book conference paper

Source: Managing References: Mendeley
By: HINARI Access to Research in Health

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EndNote

• *EndNote* is an almost indispensable tool for the serious researcher. And best of all, its free to all UM postgraduates!
Why use *EndNote*?

*EndNote* allows you to create your own reference library. This library can be used to store the bibliographical details relating to the articles and books that you use. When it comes time to write your thesis, you can employ the library to insert references into your text and produce your bibliography. *EndNote* will save you hundreds of hours over the course of your research.
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• **Store your research** and related files all in one place.
• **Add searchable keywords, notes and comments** to your PDFs.
• **Share your references** and research with colleagues.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Ref Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mortensen</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Understanding Virtual Team Performance: SSRN eLibrary</td>
<td>Journal Article</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mishra</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>In union lies strength: Collaborative competency:</td>
<td>Journal Article</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Reference**

- **Reference Type**: Journal Article
- **Author**:
- **Year**:
- **Title**:
- **Journal**:
- **Volume**:
- **Issue**:
- **Pages**:
- **Start Page**:
- **End Date**:
Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are the driving engine behind economic growth [1].

References

Why *EndNote Web*?

*EndNote Web* can help you to manage your references in a simple two-steps process …

- **Step 1: Manage references**
  - Collect references
  - Organize, share and collaborate

- **Step 2: Format references**
  - Cite references while writing (*Cite While You Write*)
  - Get reference list generated automatically
  - Change the reference style in few clicks!

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How to start?

Here are the simple steps to make your writing experience a happier one …

1. Create a free EndNote Web account
2. Collect references from Web of Science and various databases
3. Manage, organize and share references
4. Download and installing the “Cite While You Write” Plug-in (only do it once!)
5. Inserting your references and be a happy writer!

… because references are automatically generated and you can change the style with just few clicks!
ScienceDirect (Elsevier) allows you to check your desired citations, then click on the “Export Citations” link…
... then you select which pieces of information you really want in your EndNote database, using the radio buttons, then click on the “Export” button to bring up the dialog box we have seen before to transfer the temporary file into EndNote.
Writing Literature Review
Writing your literature review takes time. You may need to complete several drafts before your final copy. It is important to have a good introduction that clearly tells the reader what the literature will be about.

An introduction must tell the reader the following:

- what you are going to cover in the review
- the scope of your research
- how the review ties in with your own research topic.

Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/writing.html
Introduction

This is a good example of an introduction because it has a topic sentence which indicates what will be covered and also tells the reader the specific focus of the literature review in the concluding sentence.

**Topic sentence - identifies five major themes as the scope of this review**

Many theories have been proposed to explain what motivates human behaviour. Although the literature covers a wide variety of such theories, this review will focus on five major themes which emerge repeatedly throughout the literature reviewed. These themes are: incorporation of the self-concept into traditional theories of motivation, the influence of rewards on motivation, the increasing importance of internal forces of motivation, autonomy and self-control as sources of motivation, and narcissism as an essential component of motivation. Although the literature presents these themes in a variety of contexts, this paper will primarily focus on their application to self-motivation.

**5 major themes to be covered**

**Concluding sentence - specific focus**
A paragraph is a group of connected sentences that develop a single point, argument or idea. Paragraphs need to link to other paragraphs so that the themes, arguments or ideas developed are part of a coherent whole rather than separate bits.

A paragraph should include:

- a main statement / idea that you are putting forward, ie topic sentence
- evidence from research to support / argue your idea, showing where the writers agree and / or disagree
- student analysis of the research literature where appropriate
- summing up and linking to the next idea (paragraph).

In the literature review, you will need to show evidence of integrating your readings into each paragraph and analysis of the readings where necessary.

Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lisu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/writing.html

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Integrating arguments in paragraphs

Integration of multiple sources

To develop an integrated argument from multiple sources, you need to link your arguments together. The model below is a guide.

**Topic sentence - outlining your main claim or key point for that paragraph**

*Most early theories of motivation were concerned with need satisfaction.* Robbins, Millett, Cacioppe and Waters-Marsh (1998) argued that motivation relies on what a person needs and wants. Similarly the early theories of Maslow and McGregor (Robbins et al. 1998) focused on personal needs satisfaction as the basis for motivational behaviour. However, recent studies outlined by Leonard, Beauvais, and Scholl (1999) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation. Current thinking does not discount these theories, but simply builds on them to include a self-concept.

**Supporting evidence from the readings**

**Contrasting theories from research**

**Concluding sentence - linking to the next paragraph**

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Integrating arguments in paragraphs

Integration of student analysis

It is important to integrate your analysis and interpretation of the literature in your literature review. Read the following paragraph and see how the arguments have been integrated into the paragraph along with student analysis. Analysis is not just student opinion, it needs to be supported by the literature.

By its very nature, motivation requires a degree of individual satisfaction or narcissism. Robbins, Millet, Cacioppe, and Waters-Marshal (1998) suggest that motivation has as its very basis the need to focus on, and please the self. This is supported by Shaw, Shapard and Waugaman (2000) who contend that this narcissistic drive is based on the human effort to find personal significance in life. It can be argued that the desire to improve one’s status is a highly motivational force, and is central to the idea of narcissistic motivation. The narcissistic motivational strategies put forward by Shaw et al. (2000) are concerned with motivation for life in general, but may also have applications in the context of work. These strategies, with their focus on personal needs, demonstrate that narcissism is an essential component of motivation.
Discussion Article Title

By: [Blank]  BY-LINE

INTRODUCTION

Provide context for an area of discussion in your niche

BODY

Explain one side of a discussion

BODY

Balance the article with a counter point to the original discussion

CONCLUSION

Use both sides of the discussion to pick the “right” answer and explain why

RESOURCE BOX

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Verbs for referencing

To incorporate quotations / references into a literature review, you can use a variety of verbs. These verbs are often used with prepositions, eg that, by, on. It is poor writing to use the same ones all the time, eg says that, states that. Verbs also allow the writer to indicate the degree to which they support the author of the research, eg claims that versus argues that. The following verbs (and prepositions) can be used to introduce references into your literature review. Please note that they can be used in different tenses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Suggest (that)</strong></th>
<th>Recent studies outlined by Leonard et al (1999) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Argue (that)</strong></td>
<td>Leonard et al (1999) argue that there are three elements of self perception.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contend(s)</strong></td>
<td>Mullens (1994) contends that motivation to work well is usually related to job satisfaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outline</strong></td>
<td>Recent studies outlined by Mullins (1994) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus on</strong></td>
<td>The early theories of Maslow and McGregor (Robbins et al, 1998) focused on personal needs and wants as the basis for motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Define(s)</strong></td>
<td>Eunson (1987, p. 67) defines motivation as 'what is important to you'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclude(s) (that)</strong></td>
<td>Reviewing the results of the case study, Taylor (1980) concludes that the theories of job enrichment and employee motivation do work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State</strong></td>
<td>He further states that there is an increasing importance on the role of autonomy and self regulation of tasks in increasing motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintains (that)</strong></td>
<td>Mullins (1994) maintains that job enrichment came from Herzber's two factor theory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Found (that)</strong></td>
<td>Mullins (1994) found that there is an increasing importance on the role of autonomy and self regulation of tasks in improving motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promote(s)</strong></td>
<td>This promotes the idea that tension and stress are important external sources of motivation, which can be eliminated by completing certain tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establish(ed) (by)</strong></td>
<td>As established by Csikszentmihalyi (Yair 2000, p. 2) 'the more students feel in command of their learning, the more they fulfil their learning potential'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asserts (that)</strong></td>
<td>Locke's Goal Setting Theory asserts that setting specific goals tends to encourage work motivation (Robbins et al, 1998).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Show(s)</strong></td>
<td>Various theories of motivation show employers that there are many factors that influence employees work performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Claim(s) (that)</strong></td>
<td>Hackman and Oldham (1975) claim that people with enriched jobs, and high scores on the Job Diagnostic Survey, experienced more satisfaction and motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report(s)</strong></td>
<td>Mullins (1994) reports on four content theories of motivation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mention(s)</strong></td>
<td>Mullins (1994) mentions two common general criticisms of Herzberg's theory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Address</strong></td>
<td>Redesigning jobs so that responsibility moved from supervisors to the workers, was an attempt to address the issues of job satisfaction (Mullins, 1994).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paper Structure

• Title
• Affiliation
• Abstract
• Keywords
• Nomenclatures
• Introduction
• Materials and methods
• Results and Discussions
• Conclusions
• References
We often write in the following order:

- Figures and Tables
- Materials and Methods
- Results and Discussion
- Conclusions
- Introduction
- Abstract and Title

Source: How to Write a World Class Paper, From title to references, From submission to revision Forum Scientum Workshop, 2011-8-22
Presented By: Anthony P F Turner and Alice Tang Turner Editor-In-Chief and Managing Editor, Biosensors & Bioelectronics

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How to... write an abstract

What is an abstract?

A definition

An abstract is a succinct summary of a longer piece of work, usually academic in nature, which is published in isolation from the main text and should therefore stand on its own and be understandable without reference to the longer piece. It should report the latter's essential facts, and should not exaggerate or contain material that is not there.

Its purpose is to act as a reference tool (for example in a library abstracting service), enabling the reader to decide whether or not to read the full text.

Source: http://www.emeraldinsight.com/authors/guides/write/abstracts.htm?part=1#2
Abstract

Abstract should not exceed 300 words (without reference).

Abstract must include following sections:

Problem Statement: This section should include answers of the questions:
  • Why was research needed?.
  • What was the context of the work?.
  • Introduce the problem or provide background for what you will address.

Approach:
  • What did you do and how did you go about solving or making progress on the problem.
  • Describe the method of research, study, or analysis applied to the problem.

Results:
  • What results did you get?
  • State what you found and relate it to the problem.
  • Summarize the major results in numbers, avoid vague, hand waving results such as “very small” or “significant”.

Conclusions/Recommendations:
  • What are the implications of your answer?
  • State the relevance, implications, or significance of the results or conclusions, to the business.
  • Significance of work is often implied by the recommendations or implications for future work.

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# A Structured Abstract

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose of this paper</strong></td>
<td>What are the reason(s) for writing the paper or the aims of the research?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design/methodology/approach</strong></td>
<td>How are the objectives achieved? Include the main method(s) used for the research. What is the approach to the topic and what is the theoretical or subject scope of the paper?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Findings</strong></td>
<td>What was found in the course of the work? This will refer to analysis, discussion, or results.</td>
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<td><strong>Research limitations/implications (if applicable)</strong></td>
<td>If research is reported on in the paper this section must be completed and should include suggestions for future research and any identified limitations in the research process.</td>
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<td><strong>Practical implications (if applicable)</strong></td>
<td>What outcomes and implications for practice, applications and consequences are identified? Not all papers will have practical implications but most will. What changes to practice should be made as a result of this research/paper?</td>
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<td><strong>Social Implications (if applicable)</strong></td>
<td>What will be the impact on society of this research? How will it influence public attitudes? How will it influence (corporate) social responsibility or environmental issues? How could it inform public or industry policy? How might it affect quality of life?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What is original/value of paper</strong></td>
<td>What is new in the paper? State the value of the paper and to whom.</td>
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</table>
Choose a category for the paper

- **Research paper.** This category covers papers which report on any type of research undertaken by the author(s). The research may involve the construction or testing of a model or framework, action research, testing of data, market research or surveys, empirical, scientific or clinical research.
- **Viewpoint.** Any paper, where content is dependent on the author's opinion and interpretation, should be included in this category; this also includes journalistic pieces.
- **Technical paper.** Describes and evaluates technical products, processes or services.
  **Conceptual paper.** These papers will not be based on research but will develop hypotheses. The papers are likely to be discursive and will cover philosophical discussions and comparative studies of others' work and thinking.
- **Case study.** Case studies describe actual interventions or experiences within organizations. They may well be subjective and will not generally report on research. A description of a legal case or a hypothetical case study used as a teaching exercise would also fit into this category.
- **Literature review.** It is expected that all types of paper cite any relevant literature so this category should only be used if the main purpose of the paper is to annotate and/or critique the literature in a particular subject area. It may be a selective bibliography providing advice on information sources or it may be comprehensive in that the paper's aim is to cover the main contributors to the development of a topic and explore their different views.
- **General review.** This category covers those papers which provide an overview or historical examination of some concept, technique or phenomenon. The papers are likely to be more descriptive or instructional ("how to" papers) than discursive.

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Preparing for Submission

PAGE CONTENTS

1. General Principles
2. Reporting Guidelines
3. Manuscript Sections
   a. Title Page
   b. Abstract
   c. Introduction
   d. Methods
   e. Results
   f. Discussion
   g. References
   h. Tables
   i. Illustrations (Figures)
   j. Units of Measurement
   k. Abbreviations and Symbols
Examples

• Example 1
• Example 2
• Example 3
• Example 4
• Example 5
• Example 6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search Result</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Performance Effects</th>
<th>Research Methodologies</th>
<th>Source information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-collaboration</td>
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<td>Product complexity</td>
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**Appendix B: Data Tables**

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My recent publications
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