



Writing Abstracts

Writing an Abstract

Abstracts

What is an abstract?

An abstract is a **150 to 250-word** paragraph that provides readers with a **quick overview** of your *essay or report* and **its organization**.

It should express your **central idea** and your **key points**.

It should also suggest any **implications** or **applications** of the research you discuss in the paper.

Abstracts

An abstract is a **concise summary of the entire paper**.

The function of an abstract is **to describe**, *not to evaluate nor defend*, the paper.

The abstract should begin with a **brief but precise statement of the problem** or issue, followed by a **description of the research**, the **major findings**, and the **conclusions** reached.

Abstracts

Abstracts usually spend

- ❑ **25%** of their space on the **purpose** and importance of the research (Introduction)
- ❑ **25%** of their space on what you did (**Methods**)
- ❑ **35%** of their space on what you found (**Results**)
- ❑ **15%** of their space on the **implications** of the research

Abstracts

Remember

Purpose - Method - Result - Implications

☐ Purpose

This paper analyzes how ...

☐ Methods

To answer this question, we compared the performance of ...

☐ Results

Our results showed a significant effect of ... / The results reveal that...

☐ Implications

This study emphasizes the need to reconsider ... / take into account the impact of ... so as to improve ...

Should abstracts have titles?

The abstract title is the first thing that someone will read.

It should be engaging, succinct, and clear.

The title should include keywords

It is a combination of a dozen of **active words**.

It should not include abbreviations or acronyms.

Abstracts

Titles should be written in **lowercase bold character**.

Capitalize the initial letter of each word (of more than three letters, including “be” and “is”). Don’t capitalize short words (3 letters max), such as prepositions, articles and some conjunctions.

Centered in the upper section of your abstract page.



Abstracts

Keywords

The abstract should contain **the most important key words** referring to **method and content**.

They are used for indexing your articles. They help people find your article in databases.

These are words that collectively describe and summarize your research.



Keywords must be in italics with a colon, followed by the keywords or phrases separated by commas.
No punctuation is used after the last keyword.

Keywords: *representations, supportive care, resilience, right distance, professional posture*

Abstracts Words

To analyse

To report

To illustrate

To prove

To affirm

To emphasize

To highlight

To showcase

To describe

To justify

To confirm

To address

To deal with

To study

To observe

To complete

To compare

To contrast