

AL2 – Abstract Writing

Directions: Use the questions below to help you write your abstract.

Color the different parts according to the exam on Moodle.

Remember to write a paragraph (not 'phrases à la ligne')

Context

What background information is needed to understand the overall importance of your research?

This section should give general information. Do not talk about your study. No 'we'!!

Research gap

What is the gap in knowledge?

A research gap is an area in a field of study that has not been fully explored or answered. Something that previous research hasn't addressed, or a problem that hasn't been solved yet.

Useful phrases for this section:

- Limited research has examined...
- Previous studies have not addressed...
- Few studies have investigated... using...
- Most studies have relied on..., leaving... unexplored.
- Research has predominantly focused on..., with limited attention to...
- The effects on ... have not been thoroughly studied.
- The application of ... in ... remains unclear.

Aim

What are the aims and objectives of your research?

Use infinitive after aim. *We aimed to.../The study aimed to...*

Use the simple past tense (or present tense 4GMM) to describe your aim

Methods

What methods did you use to conduct your research? What programs, tests, lab setup, etc.?

Include quantitative information

Use the simple past tense to describe your methods (present tense for 4GMM for maths!)

Use the passive and active voice

Results

What results did you obtain? (For a dynamic abstract, you can start with this sentence...)

Include quantitative information

Use the simple present tense to introduce your results. *We show that...Our results highlight...*

Use the simple past tense to describe your results

Conclusion

What can you conclude from your research? What are the implications? What is the next step in your research?

Do not repeat your results!!!

Keywords

Must be specific not general

Fine to use multi-word phrases