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How to write 'introduction' in scientific journal article

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Introduction section states the purpose, the rationale for carrying out the research including background information on what is known, current state of what is unknown and clearly highlights the gaps that your study aims to fulfill.

"Introduction" in scientific articles is the "entrance gate" that introduces the paper to attract attention and create urge to the readers, reviewers and peers to read further sections of the manuscript. This section should have a "hook" to gain the reader's attention as why this research work was chosen, and why is it important? This section summarizes the relevant literatures to help the reader understand why the study question is important. This section must appropriately choose past studies to set the background to provide the reader adequate information regarding the necessity of the project to justify the worthiness of the study. The function of the introduction is to establish the context of the work by discussing the relevant literature and clearly summarizing the understanding of the problem and provide rationale and possible outcomes of the present study. A good beginning makes a good ending!

Introduction usually contains three distinct themes, preferably in separate paragraphs:

The first or the beginning provides 'general overview' of the topic, including past literatures to provide clear objective of the study. This is done by including key words from title in the first few sentences to focus directly on the topic. The aim is to build a rapport, right from the beginning between the reader and the article proper, with clear and robust information on the research topic. The literature review and choice of research method should make the reader understand the issue that current work attempted to resolve. Care should be taken so that the literature review is not too exhaustive to include all the available knowledge in the field of study.

The writing of introduction section is in simple language, in present tense. State the purpose with clear rationale why the study is being carried out. This includes background information of the problem already known, current status, and then narrow down to what is unsolved and the gap that present study is going to bridge. And obviously, if the problem is not stated in a reasonable, understandable way, readers will have no interest in your solution.

The abbreviations, acronyms appearing for the first time must be provided with full forms in the bracket. All important statements, facts and figures must be backed up by appropriate recent citations. Most journals have word limits for this section hence must be followed to comply with the format and instruction. In summary, the purpose of the Introduction is to provide sufficient background information to allow the readers to understand the problem and see the importance of the present study without needing to refer to other publications on the topic. The writing has to be short and sweet, like the vital details on the 'matrimonial website' to attract best match! The tips for a strong introduction is to arouse interest and encourage the reader to read the rest of your work, keeping it short by sticking closely to

the problem, the aim of the research so as the conclusion and discussion that will follow later are aligned to the introduction section. The introduction concludes with a clear statement the purpose and objectives to help readers see clearly the evolution, importance, and critical aspects of the study.

Schematic diagram of a good introduction is to follow the structure of inverted triangle:

REFRENCENCES

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