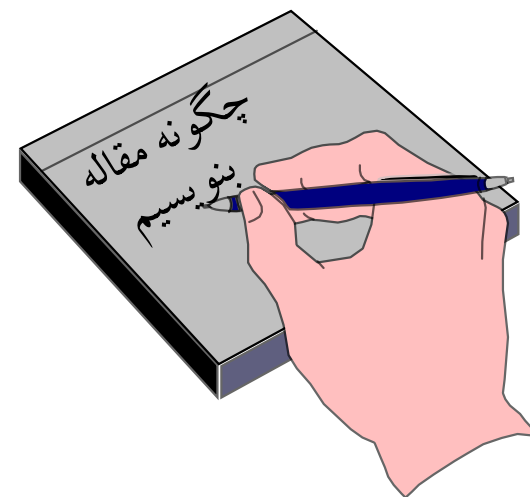


چگونه مقاله بنویسیم؟

دکتر مرتضی قوجازاده

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How to Write the Discussion?

The function of the Discussion is:

- ❖ To write Briefly & summarize your principal finding
- ❖ Implications of your results for other researchers
- ❖ Interpret findings in light of the literature
- ❖ Reconcile findings with the literature
- ❖ Limitations of your study
- ❖ Conclusions

Paragraphs in Discussion

- 1st paragraph
 - Introduce broad Idea
 - State major findings
- 2nd paragraph
 - Explicit rationale
- Last paragraph
 - Conclusion
 - Sugestions

Mechanics of Writing- Discussion

- Construct parallel to results
- Interpretation of data
- Relate your results to the findings of other investigators
- Summary paragraph at end - include significance of results
- Avoid redundancy with results and introduction sections

Discussion

- Do your results provide answers to your testable hypotheses?
- If so, how do you interpret your findings?
- Do your findings agree with what others have shown?
- If not, do they suggest an alternative explanation or perhaps a unforeseen design flaw in your experiment (or theirs?)

Discussion

- Given your conclusions, what is our new understanding of the problem you investigated and outlined in the Introduction?
- Explain weaknesses, shortcomings. Be fair: this will build trust. Don't over-criticize yourself, don't go to unnecessary details.

Discussion

- If warranted, what would be the next step in your study, e.g., what experiments would you do next?

Discussion

- Reverse of Introduction (pyramid)

Discussion

1. Organize the Discussion to address each of the experiments or studies for which you presented results.
2. discuss each in the same sequence as presented in the Results, providing your interpretation of what they mean in the larger context of the problem.

Discussion

Do not waste entire sentences restating your results; if you need to remind the reader of the result to be discussed, use "bridge sentences" that relate the result to the interpretation:

"The slow response of the lead-exposed neurons relative to controls suggests that...[interpretation]".

Good discussions ...

- Address every key finding of the study
- Present the finding in terms of what is known
- State why this study is different
- State why the results concur/ disagree with current knowledge
- Justify differences
- Point out future directions/ continued knowledge gaps

Style

- Use the active voice whenever possible in this section.
- Be concise and make your points clearly.
- Use of the first person is okay, but too much use of the first person may actually distract the reader from the main points.
- 2-3 paragraphs, <450 words

Some notes

- How would you **change your experiment to make it better?**
- What **new questions** did this **experiment make** you think of?
- If you made **mistakes** in your experimental design, did you **discuss them** and how to **fix it for next time.**

How to Write the Title?

Title

- First & most of the times the **only part of an article** that readers and editors **see and read**.
- Key elements that advertises the paper's contents
 - **Informative** and **Specific**
- Maybe helpful to choose the title **when the paper is complete**

Title

- Short and simple
- State subject, not conclusion
- Include study design
- Include time and place if necessary
- Begin with a keyword
- Avoid abbreviations
- Remove empty phrases such as “A study of...”
- Use Subtitles (notice number of words) “Exercise and Coronary Heart Disease: Framingham Offspring Study”

عنوان مقاله

عنوان مقاله باید با حداقل تعداد کلمات و درعین حال به طور کافی بیان گر محتوای مقاله باشد:

- ❖ مبهم نبوده، دقیق باشد.
- ❖ کلمه‌های اختصاصی بکار رود.
- ❖ کلمه‌ها آشنا باشد.
- ❖ کلمه‌های کوتاه انتخاب شود.

عنوان مقاله

● بهتر است که عنوان با **کلمات کلیدی و اصلی** (Keyword) شروع شود. به عبارت دیگر بهتر است که عنوان شامل کلمات کلیدی و اصلی باشد که بوسیله تعدادی حروف ربط در کنار یکدیگر قرار گرفته‌اند.

- 1- Aortic Stenosis , Von Willebrand Factor , and Bleeding .
- 2-"Acquired Von Willebrand syndrome in Aortic Stenosis .
- 3-"Risk of Bacterial Meningitis in Children with Cochlear Implants.

عنوان مقاله

- گاهی اوقات بهتر است که عنوان مقاله به صورت **سوالی** مطرح شود که باعث ترغیب خواننده گردد. اصولاً طرح عنوان مقاله به صورت سوال، یکی از الگوهای عنوان نویسی می باشد.

- 1-" Do Bisphosphonates Make Children's Bones Better or Brittle ?"
- 2-" Use It or Lose It –Do Effortful Mental Activities Protect against Dementia?"
- 3-" Behind the Research : Death by Voluntary Dehydration –What the Caregivers Say ?"

Routin suggestions for titles:

- Concise and precise
- Informative and descriptive
- Not misleading or unrepresentative
- Specific – for example, include type of study and numbers (if large)
- Words appropriate for classification
- Interesting not dull

& Finally check:

- Is it accurate?
- Is it in any way misleading?
- Does it contain essential key words?
- Is it interesting?

Title types

- Indicative (State what paper covers, not what it says)
- Informative (Good to start writing with)

عنوان مقاله

Main Title

1. عنوان اصلی

Running Title

2. عنوان مکرری

Title & Running title

- An **abbreviated version** of the title is called a **running title**, which may be used for identification of the report on subsequent pages.
- Usually 30-40 including white spaces

How to Write the Abstract?

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The Abstract

- an overview of the paper.
- should make sense both when read alone and when read with the paper
- The overview should present the main story and a few essential details of the paper for readers who read only the abstract and should serve as both a clear preview and a clear, accurate recapitulation of the main story for readers who read the paper.

Abstract

- Summarizes the **major findings** in the broad context of the work
- Consists of **two or three sentences** of topic introduction
- Selected results (not all but **the most important**)
- Concludes with implications of work

Abstracts

The abstract should be neither vague and general on the one hand nor fussily detailed on the other. It should be specific and selective.

The abstract of a paper should state concisely:

- the **question** that was asked,
- what was done **to answer** the question,
- what was **found** that answers the question, and
- the **answer** to the question.

Abstracts

- Most journals limit the length of the abstract (**usually to 250 words or less**)
“Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals”
- For **un-structured abstracts**, limit the abstract to **150 words or less**.
- If no limit is stated, make your abstract **no longer than the abstracts in recent issues** of the journal.

In summary:

- The abstract should provide an **overview of the main story** and a **few essential - details**.
- The abstract should be **clear** both to
 - readers who read the paper
 - readers who do not read the paper.

In unstructured method

- Write the abstract as one paragraph.
- Use the techniques of continuity to make the paragraph flow. Use signals to indicate the parts of the abstract:
- Signal what you found by "**We found that**" or something similar.

In unstructured method

- Signal the answer by **"We conclude that"** or **"Thus"** or something similar. Signal implications by **"We suggest that"** or something similar.
- The question and what was done can usually be written in one sentence in "the form **"To determine X, we. ..."** If the question and what was done are in separate sentences, use signals such as **"We asked whether. ..."** (question) and **"To answer this question, we. ..."** (what was done).

Abstract Writing

- Use **present tense** verbs for the **question and the answer**.
- Use **past tense** verbs to state **what was done and what was found**.
- Be careful **not to omit the question**, not to state the question vaguely, and not to state an implication instead of the answer .

Abstract Writing

- To ensure that the question is specific rather than vague, check the question against the answer: use the same key terms for the independent and dependent variables; keep the same point of view; and, to anticipate the answer, use the same verb in the question as in the answer.
- If you give a p value, also give data (for example, mean(SD) and the sample size (n)).

Abstract Writing

- Write short sentences.
- Use simple words. Avoid jargon. Avoid abbreviations. Keep the abstract short.
- Omit less important information (experimental preparation, confirmatory results, comparisons with previous results, data for less important variables, definitions, background, implications).

Abstract Writing

- Omit details [unnecessary details of methods, exact data (give percent change), p values, "significantly"].
- Avoid repetition (use a category term in what was done and name the variables in what was found; state "mean ::t SD" only once).
- Use active voice instead of passive voice.

Abstract Writing

- Omit unnecessary words
 - use "Thus" instead of "We conclude that"
 - use an adjective or an apostrophe instead of an "of" phrase: for example, "*ductal* rings" instead of "rings of ductus arteriosus," "*rings'* sensitivity" instead of "sensitivity of the rings";
 - do **not** omit "a," "an," or "the" when they are necessary).

Exceptions

- If the journal to which you are submitting a paper requests a different form for the abstract, follow the requested form.

Keywords

- Select terms that you would look up to find your own paper and that would attract the readers you hope to reach.
- Select current, specific terms, preferably medical subject headings (MeSH), that name important topics in your paper .
- Use phrases as well as single words.
- If the journal asks you to supply only terms that are not in the title of the paper, do so
- If necessary, include a term as an indexing term even if the term does not appear in your paper .

Check list for Abstract

- Background, methods, results, discussion?
- Key features mentioned?
- Anything that does not appear in full text?
- Results in words?
- Conclusion: justified? objective?
- Meaningful interpretation
- Follows the guidelines

Common mistakes in abstract

- Too much background or methods information
- Figures or images
- References to other literature, figures or images
- Abbreviations or acronyms

How to Write the References?

References

- Aim for about 30 references
- Use **recent review papers** where appropriate **to decrease the number**
- Get a **hard copy of every reference** in the manuscript and make sure the referenced paper says what you say it does! **Don't use abstracts!**
- Proof-read the reference list especially carefully as **one of your reviewers may be cited!**
- Use **EndNote** or other bibliographic software
- Use the Internet

References

- Appropriate format
- Only 1 or 2 references per point
- Don't over self-cite
- Avoid textbooks & conference abstracts.
- Avoid referencing to thesis & dissertations
- Avoid using the references list of your reference
- Select carefully, balance authors used

Main Important Referencing Styles

1. Author-Date Style

(Harvard Style)

2. Numeric Style

(Vancouver Style)

Author-Date Style system

In-Text citations

- Cite your sources within your text by giving the **author's surname(s), year of publication**, and (when appropriate) page numbers
- Examples:
 - Contrary to popular perception, violent crime has been shown to be decreasing (Johnson 2004)
 - James and Peters (2003) have argued that...

Author-Date Style

Reference List Bibliography

All references are listed in author/date **alphabetical** order:

- Example:
 - HOLLAND, M., 2002. *Guide to citing Internet sources* [online]. Poole: Bournemouth University. Available from: http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/using/guide_to_citing_internet_sourc.html [Accessed 4 November 2002].
 - OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY, 1989. 2nd ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
 - UNESCO, 1993. *General information programme and UNISIST*. Paris: UNESCO, (PGI-93/WVS/22).
 - WISEMAN, S., ed., 1967. *Intelligence and ability*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Numeric system

In-Text Citations

Each citation in the text is given a **number** in brackets:

Example:

- Ericson (1) and Milne (2) take the view that... but other authorities (3) argue that...

References are listed in **number order** in the bibliography, & cited by that number each time they are referred to in the text.

Numeric system

Reference List Bibliography

Example:

1. ERICSON, E.E., 1991. *The apocalyptic vision of Mikhail Bulgakov's 'The Master and Margarita'*. New York: Edwin Mellen, p.153.
2. MILNE, L., 1977 . *'The Master and Margarita': a comedy of victory*. Birmingham: University of Birmingham, pp.62-3.
3. BARRATT, A., 1987. *Between two worlds: a critical introduction to 'The Master and Margarita'*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, p.96.

Each reference number points to a single reference only

References

- Check specific referencing style of journal
- Should reference:
 - Peer-reviewed journal articles, abstracts, books
- Should not reference:
 - Non-peer-reviewed works, textbooks, personal communications