



### **Research Skills Session 10: Improve a Research Paper Quality**

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https://publons.com/researcher/1692944 http://scholar.google.com/citations



All of my presentations are available online at: <a href="https://figshare.com/authors/Nader\_Ale\_Ebrahim/100797">https://figshare.com/authors/Nader\_Ale\_Ebrahim/100797</a>

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10th December 2019

### Abstract

In this workshop, Dr. Nader introduces some tools for improving a research paper quality from his Research Tools Mind Map. The Research Tools enable researchers to follow the correct path in research and to ultimately produce high-quality research outputs with more accuracy and efficiency. Besides introducing some tools, he emphasize on ten techniques such as: Collaborate with excellent researchers, Choose a good research team, Focus on quality instead of quantity, Use recent and relevant references, Avoid obvious errors, Don't forget story telling style, Write clearly, concisely and smartly, Read your paper several times, Target the top journals, and Follow patterns of well-written papers in your field, for improving a research paper quality.

**Keywords:** Research tools, Research Visibility, Research Impact, Bibliometrics

# Do Research, Don't Re-Search

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### **Research Tools Mind Map**



### Session Topic

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Selecting keywords
- 3. Finding Research Papers
- 4. Evaluate a paper quality
- 5. Managing Research
- 6. Read a paper
- 7. Indexing Desktop Research Tools
- 8. Avoid Scientific Misconduct
- 9. Writing a Paper

10. Improve paper quality

- 11. Target Suitable Journal
- 12. Improve your Research Visibility and Impact

## Tasks for the first session

- 1. Structure & planning your research (Draw the literature map)
- 2. Read:
  - <u>https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2\_AssessmentTasks/assess\_tuts/</u>
     <u>lit\_review\_LL/reading.html</u>
  - Cottrell, S. (2005). <u>Critical thinking skills Developing Effective Analysis and</u> <u>Argument</u>. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
  - Chapter 3 of "Creswell, J. W. (2012). <u>Educational research: Planning,</u> <u>Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research</u> (4th ed.). Boston: Pearson Education, Inc"
  - Chapter 3 of "Saunders, M., Lewis, P., & Thornhill, A. (2009). <u>Research methods</u> <u>for business students</u> (5th ed.). Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE, England: Pearson Education Limited."

## Tasks for the second session

- 1. Create the log file for your search term/s
- 2. Identify the main keywords set for your research
- 3. Identify the alternative keywords set for your research
- 4. Evaluate the search terms
- 5. Looking for selected keywords sets on:
  - ✓ SCOPUS
  - ✓ Web of Science Core Collection
- 6. Write the methodology used for selecting the final keywords set

## Tasks for the third session

- 1. Install a reference management software
- Download selected papers (based on the final keywords set) into the reference management software

## Tasks for the fourth session

- 1. Measure the downloaded papers/journal's quality
- Rate the downloaded papers in your Desktop Endnote library
- Turn on Alert system in Scopus, WoS and other databases based on the selected papers

## Tasks for the fifth session

- 1. Create your own thesis/paper table of contents
- Identify the main topics from your collected documents
- 3. Create your literature review/Thesis Mind Map
- 4. Plan your Thesis/Paper writing process

## Task for the sixth session

1. Read <u>Keshav, S. (2007). How to read a paper. ACM</u> <u>SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review,</u> <u>37(3), 83-84.</u>

## Tasks for the seventh session

- 1. Install Dtsearch and create a report based on the most frequent keywords
- 2. Use VOSviewer to create some visual figures for your manuscript
- 3. Create database on Dtsearch
- 4. Generate a Microsoft Word file from a search results of Dtsearch

## Tasks for the eighth session

- 1. Explore "retraction watch" and "Retraction Watch Database" web site (https://retractionwatch.com/ and http://retractiondatabase.org ) and list 5 scientific misconduct in your area of research
- 2. Measure similarity rate of your manuscript

## Tasks for the ninth session

- 1. Create your own article template
- 2. Write an introductory paragraph

### Outline

| No. | Торіс                           |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 1   | Ten tips                        |
| 2   | Microsoft Word                  |
| 3   | Writing Literature Review       |
| 4   | Paper Structure                 |
| 5   | Choose a category for the paper |
| 6   |                                 |
| 7   |                                 |

# Ten tips for improving a research paper quality

- 1. Collaborate with excellent researchers
- 2. Choose a good research team
- 3. Focus on quality instead of quantity.
- 4. Use recent and relevant references.
- 5. Avoid obvious errors.
- 6. Don't forget story telling style
- 7. Write clearly, concisely and smartly.
- 8. Read your paper several times.
- 9. Target the top journals
- 10. Follow patterns of well-written papers in your field

## How to Use Microsoft Word's Reviewing Tools for Peer Editing

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| - 09<br>         | Themes and styles also help keep your document coordinated. When you click Design and choose   |
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| 8                | you apply styles, your headings change to match the new theme. Save time in Word with new  |

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#### 106 Academic Approach

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107 Of all the journals with P&O content, fFive of the most commonly read journals were used as sample forin this study: JPO, POI, JRRD, APMR and GP.- The number of prosthetics articles 108 available in each journal was determined using the search terms "prosthetic," "prosthetics," 109 110 "prosthetist," "prosthesis," and "prostheses" as keywords in Scopus, one of the largest abstract and citation databases. The five journal names were entered under the filter category "Source title". 111 112 The search was further narrowed to publication years from 2007 to 2016 (i.e., o-Only articles and reviews published between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2016 were included in the initial 113 selection). 114 Search results Articles were scrutinized to determine whether a limb prosthesis was part of the 115

study design, and only studies articles were included that either focused on the design or fabrication



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C Effective Strategies for Increasing Citation Frequency

Start Writing

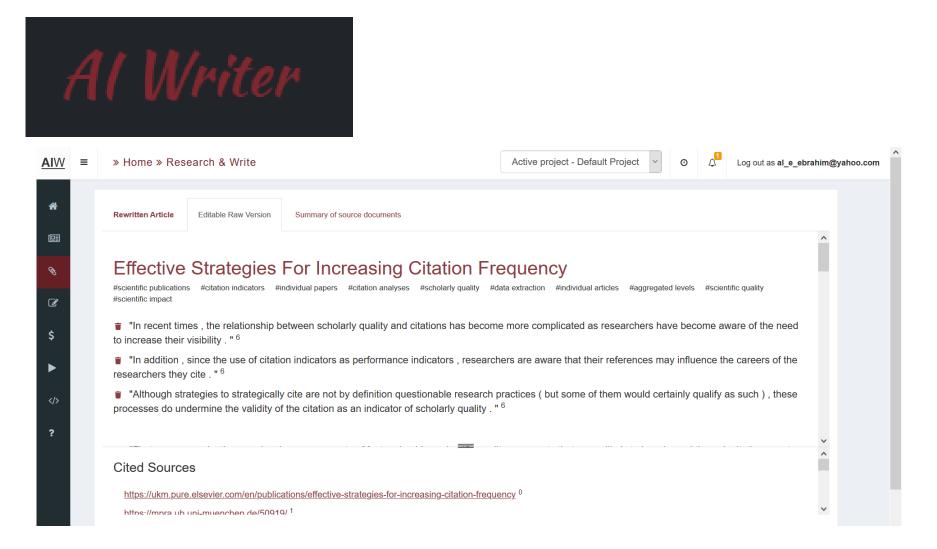
#### start with a prewritten paragraph on "Effective Strategies for Increasing Citation Frequency"

Despite the fact that its relatively new (it was described for the first time in 2005), the h-index has become an important measure of career development. Just today I saw an academic job offer with a minimum h-index value added to the list of requirements. The h-index is generally used for choosing candidates for promotions and grant fundings. It is very often used as an official criteria, but in other cases it can be used by referees or reviewers to evaluate research output, because it is easy for anyone to determine what is the exact value of this parameter (have a look here for a reasons to love h-index).

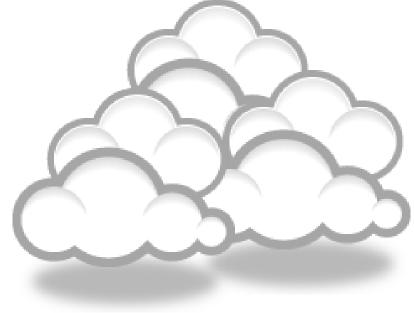
Due to the **effect** of **citation** impact on The Higher Education (THE) world university ranking system, most of the researchers are looking for some helpful techniques to **increase** their **citation** record. This paper by reviewing the relevant articles extracts 33 different ways **for increasing** the **citations** possibilities. The results show that the article visibility has tended to receive more download and **citations**. This is probably the first study to collect over 30 different ways to improve the **citation** record. Further study is needed to explore and expand these techniques in specific fields of study in order to make the results more precisely.

#### Source: https://www.essaybot.com/login

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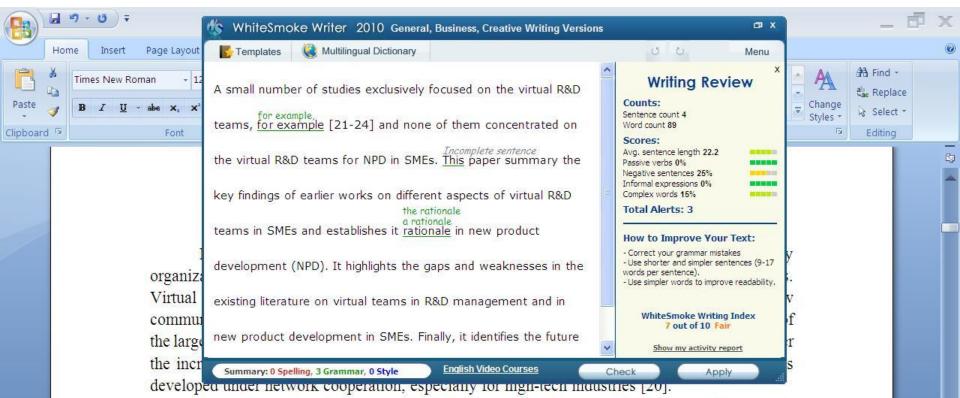


Source: https://panel.ai-writer.com



## Paraphrasing & editing tools

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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 lin/new product development) (NPD). The articles are

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#### We reports the relevant result of an online survey study.

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 reports 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.

Page: 1 of 1 Words: 10/110 🕉 English (United States)

■ ■ ■ ■ 160% (-)-

### Paper Structure

- Title
- Affiliation
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Nomenclatures
- Introduction
- Materials and methods
- Results and Discussions
- Conclusions
- References



| Software       supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.         Validation       Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs.         Formal Analysis       Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyse or synthesise study data.         Investigation       Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.         Resources       Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.         Data Curation       Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.         Writing – Original Draft       Creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantiv translation).         Writing – Review and       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.         Visualisation       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation         Secore collication       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation <th>Contributor Role</th> <th>Role Definition</th> | Contributor Role       | Role Definition   |
|--|------------------------|---|
| SoftwareProgramming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code<br>supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.ValidationVerification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of<br>results/experiments and other research outputs.Formal AnalysisApplication of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyse or synthesise<br>study data.InvestigationConducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence<br>collection.ResourcesProvision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation,<br>computing resources, or other analysis tools.Data CurationManagement activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including<br>software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.Writing – Original Draft<br>PreparationPreparation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantiv<br>translation).Writing – Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation<br>dor presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation  | Conceptualisation      | Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.   |
| Software       supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.         Validation       Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs.         Formal Analysis       Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyse or synthesise study data.         Investigation       Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.         Resources       Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.         Data Curation       Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.         Writing – Original Draft Preparation       Creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantiv translation).         Writing – Review and Editing       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.         Visualisation       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation         Vering – Review and       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentatior                                       | Methodology            | Development or design of methodology; creation of models.   |
| Validationresults/experiments and other research outputs.Formal AnalysisApplication of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyse or synthesise<br>study data.InvestigationConducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence<br>collection.ResourcesProvision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation,<br>computing resources, or other analysis tools.Data CurationManagement activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including<br>software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.Writing - Original Draft<br>PreparationCreation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive<br>translation).Writing - Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group,<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationConstructionPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationCurrent StationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationSupervisionOversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship   | Software               | Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components. |
| Formal Analysisstudy data.InvestigationConducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence<br>collection.ResourcesProvision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation,<br>computing resources, or other analysis tools.Data CurationManagement activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including<br>software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.Writing - Original Draft<br>PreparationCreation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive<br>translation).Writing - Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group,<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision - including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationOversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorshi   | Validation             |   |
| Investigationcollection.ResourcesProvision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation,<br>computing resources, or other analysis tools.Data CurationManagement activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including<br>software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.Writing - Original Draft<br>PreparationCreation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantiv<br>translation).Writing - Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group,<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision - including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationOversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship   | Formal Analysis        |   |
| Resourcescomputing resources, or other analysis tools.Data CurationManagement activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including<br>software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.Writing - Original Draft<br>PreparationCreation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantiv<br>translation).Writing - Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group,<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationSupervisionOversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship  | Investigation          |   |
| Data Curation       software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.         Writing – Original Draft       Creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation).         Writing – Review and Editing       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.         Visualisation       Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation         Supervision       Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship  | Resources              |   |
| Preparationtranslation).Writing – Review and<br>EditingPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group,<br>specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation<br>Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship   | Data Curation          |   |
| Editingspecifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.VisualisationPreparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentationSupervisionOversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship  |                        | Creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation).                                     |
| Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorshi  |                        |   |
| Ninervision  | Visualisation          | Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualisation/data presentation.  |
| external to the core team.   | Supervision            | Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team.                           |
| <b>Project Administration</b> Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.   | Project Administration | Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.  |
| Funding       Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication.         Source: https://www.microbiologyresearch.org/prepare-an-article#12         Source: https://www.microbiologyresearch.org/prepare-an-article#12  |                        |   |

Research Visibility and Impact Center-(RVnIC)

## Organization of a Research Paper: The IMRAD Format

#### The IMRAD Format—Main Sections of a Scientific Paper

| Section               | Purpose   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Title                 | What the paper is about   |
| Authors               | Names and affiliations of authors   |
| Keywords              | Words other than those in title that best describe the paper                      |
| Abstract              | A stand-alone, short narrative of the paper                                       |
| Introduction          | <i>Why this paper?</i> The problem, what is not known, the objective of the study |
| Materials and methods | How was the study done?   |
| Results               | What did you find?  |
| Discussion            | What does it mean? What next? Interpretation of results and future directions     |
| Conclusion            | Possible implications   |
| Acknowledgments       | Who helped and how; what was the funding source?                                  |
| References            | Details of papers cited   |
| Appendices            | Supplementary materials   |

Source: Nair, P. R., & Nair, V. D. (2014). Organization of a Research Paper: The IMRAD Format. In *Scientific Writing and Communication in Agriculture and Natural Resources* (pp. 13-25). Springer International Publishing. Research Visibility and Impact Center-(RVnIC)

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### Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)



#### PRISMA 2009 Checklist

| Section/topic             | # | Checklist item  | Reported<br>on page # |
|---------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|
| TITLE                     |   |   |                       |
| Title                     | 1 | Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.   |                       |
| ABSTRACT                  |   |   |                       |
| Structured summary        | 2 | Provide a structured summary including, as applicable: background; objectives; data sources; study eligibility criteria, participants, and interventions; study appraisal and synthesis methods; results; limitations; conclusions and implications of key findings; systematic review registration number. |                       |
| INTRODUCTION              |   |   |                       |
| Rationale                 | 3 | Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known.  |                       |
| Objectives                | 4 | Provide an explicit statement of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design (PICOS).  |                       |
| METHODS                   |   |   |                       |
| Protocol and registration | 5 | Indicate if a review protocol exists, if and where it can be accessed (e.g., Web address), and, if available, provide registration information including registration number.   |                       |
| Eligibility criteria      | 6 | Specify study characteristics (e.g., PICOS, length of follow-up) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) used as criteria for eligibility, giving rationale.  |                       |
| Information sources       | 7 | Describe all information sources (e.g., databases with dates of coverage, contact with study authors to identify additional studies) in the search and date last searched.  |                       |
| Search                    | 8 | Present full electronic search strategy for at least one database, including any limits used, such that it could be   |                       |

*From:* Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). *Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement.* PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

For more information, visit <u>www.prisma-statement.org</u>.

### We often write in the following order:

- 1. Figures and Tables
- 2. Materials and Methods
- 3. Results and Discussion
- 4. Conclusions
- 5. Introduction
- 6. 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* 



### 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.

### A Structured Abstract

| Purpose of this paper                                   | What are the reason(s) for writing the paper or the aims of the research?   |
|---|---|
| Design/methodology/<br>approach                         | 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?   |
| Findings  | What was found in the course of the work? This will refer to analysis, discussion, or results.  |
| Research<br>limitations/implications (if<br>applicable) | 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.   |
| Practical implications<br>(if applicable)               | 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?                             |
| Social Implications (if applicable)                     | 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? |
| What is original/value of paper                         | What is new in the paper? State the value of the paper and to whom<br>2019-2021 Br. Nader Ale Ebrahim   |

## 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
- Source: <u>http://www.emeraldinsight.com/authors/guides/write/abstracts.htm?part=1#2</u>

# Ten Simple (Empirical) Rules for Writing Science

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# Ten Simple (Empirical) Rules for Writing Science

- Rule 1: Keep It Short
- Rule 2: Keep It Compact
- Rule 3: Keep It Simple
- Rule 4: Use the Present Tense
- Rule 5: Avoid Adjectives and Adverbs
- Rule 6: Focus
- Rule 7: Signal Novelty and Importance
- Rule 8: Be Bold
- Rule 9: Show Confidence
- Rule 10: Avoid Evocative Words

# HOW TO WRITE/EDIT SCIENTIFIC PAPERS (I) MINDSET, (II) CONCEPTS, AND (III) LOGIC

# Writing your 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

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Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2\_AssessmentTasks/assess\_tuts/lit\_review\_LL/writing.html

# Paragraphs

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/lsu/content/2\_AssessmentTasks/assess\_tuts/lit\_review\_LL/writing.html

### 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

Supporting evidence from the readings

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.

Contrasting theories from research

Concluding sentence - linking to the next paragraph

### 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.

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

First statement of evidence from the literature

By its very nature, motivation requires a degree of individual satisfaction or narcissism. Robbins, Millet, Cacioppe, and Waters-Marsh (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.

Second statement of evidence from the literature

Student analysis

Concluding statement

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## Example of Citations

Other research also indicates that individual and group marks should be combined in-group activities (Buchy & Quinlan, 2000; Lim et al., 2003; Romano & Nunamaker, 1998).

#### Figure 5: Pointing at the literature

Buchy and Quinlan (2000) interviewed 36 students participating in tutorial groups. These interviews indicated that the students felt they were becoming more conscious of learning processes of both themselves and their peers.

#### Figure 6: Knowledge-level mastery

Source: Levy, Y., & Ellis, T. J. (2006). <u>A systems approach to conduct an effective literature review in support of information systems research</u>. *Informing Science*: *International Journal of an Emerging Transdiscipline*, *9*(1), 181-212.

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# Example of Citations

Han and Kamber (2001) suggest an evolution that moves from data collection and database creation, towards data management, and ultimately, data analysis and understanding.

Figure 7: Pre-comprehension level mastery

Han and Kamber (2001) suggest an evolution that moves from data collection and database creation, towards data management, and ultimately, data analysis and understanding. For example, *data processing* is a base function enabling manipulation and aggregation of data, thus facilitating searching and retrieval.

#### Figure 8: Comprehension-level mastery

Source: Levy, Y., & Ellis, T. J. (2006). <u>A systems approach to conduct an effective literature review in support of information systems research</u>. *Informing Science*: *International Journal of an Emerging Transdiscipline*, 9(1), 181-212.

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# Verbs for referencing

|                    | 🚱 Bookmark * 🖹 Highlight * 🛄 Capture * 📿 Comment * 🗟 Send* 🤿 Message (0) 🗞 Read Later 📄 Unread 🛅 Recent 🦃 Add a filter 🛛 🕤 Options                             | 👥 Go pre |
|--------------------|--|----------|
| Suggest (that)     | Recent studies outlined by Leonard et al (1999) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation.                         |          |
| Argue (that)       | Leonard et al (1999) argue that there are three elements of self perception.   |          |
| Contend(s)         | Mullens (1994) contends that motivation to work well is usually related to job satisfaction.   |          |
| Outline            | Recent studies outlined by Mullins (1994) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation.                               |          |
| Focus on           | The early theories of Maslow and McGregor (Robbins et al, 1998) focused on personal needs and wants as the basis for motivation.                               |          |
| Define(s)          | Eunson (1987, p. 67) defines motivation as 'what is important to you'.   |          |
| Conclude(s) (that) | Reviewing the results of the case study, Taylor (1980) concludes that the theories of job enrichment and employee motivation do work.                          |          |
| State              | He further states that there is an increasing importance on the role of autonomy and self regulation of tasks in increasing motivation.                        |          |
| Maintains (that)   | Mullins (1994) maintains that job enrichment came from Herzber's two factor theory.  |          |
| Found (that)       | Mullins (1994) found that there is an increasing importance on the role of autonomy and self regulation of tasks in improving motivation.                      |          |
| Promote(s)         | This promotes the idea that tension and stress are important external sources of motivation, which can be eliminated by completing certain tasks.              |          |
| Establish(ed) (by) | As established by Csikszentmihalyi (Yair 2000, p. 2) 'the more students feel in command of their learning, the more they fulfil their learning potential'.     |          |
| Asserts (that)     | Locke's Goal Setting Theory asserts that setting specific goals tends to encourage work motivation (Robbins et al, 1998).                                      |          |
| Show(s)            | Various theories of motivation show employers that there are many factors that influence employees work performance.   |          |
| Claim(s) (that)    | Hackman and Oldham (1975) claim that people with enriched jobs, and high scores on the Job Diagnostic<br>Survey, experienced more satisfaction and motivation. |          |
| Report(s)          | Mullins (1994) reports on four content theories of motivation.   |          |
| Mention(s)         | Mullins (1994) mentions two common general criticisms of Herzberg's theory.  |          |
| Address            | Redesigning jobs so that responsibility moved from supervisors to the workers, was an attempt to address the issues of job satisfaction (Mullins, 1994).       |          |

Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2\_assessmenttasks/assess\_tuts/lit\_review\_LL/verbs.html Research Visibility and Impact Center-(RVnIC)

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Before submission, follow EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators, freely available in

many

languages at <u>www.ease.org.uk/publications/au</u>

thor-guidelines. Adherence should increase the chances of acceptance of submitted manuscripts.

**Guidelines translations:** 

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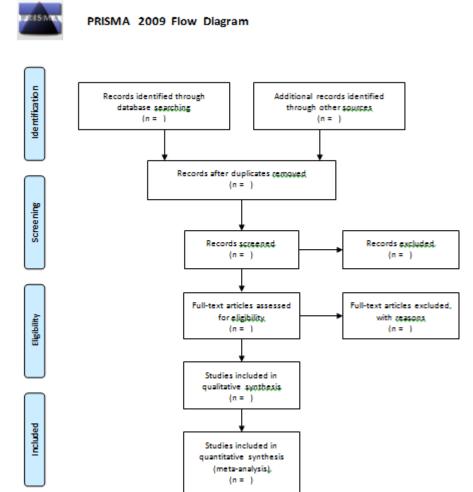
# International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

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| Sending the Submission                  | f. Discussion   |
| Sending the Submission Translations     | g. References   |
|   |   |

### Examples

- Example 1
- Example 2
- Example 3
- Example 4
- Example 5
- Example 6

### Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)



*From:* Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). *Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews* and *Meta-Analyses*: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

For more information, visit <u>www.prisma-statement.org</u>.

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### Systematic Literature Review Summary Table

|           | Concept 1 | Concept 2 |   | Concept n |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|
| Article 1 | X         |           |   | X         |
| Article 2 |           | X         |   |           |
|           |           |           | X | X         |
| Article n |           | X         | X |           |

Source: Levy, Y., & Ellis, T. J. (2006). <u>A systems approach to conduct an effective literature review in support of information systems research</u>. *Informing Science*: *International Journal of an Emerging Transdiscipline*, *9*(1), 181-212.

# Example excel databases of Systematic Quantitative Literature Reviews



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Study International Research Industry Alumni About Griffith Staff

Home > Environment, Planning and Architecture > Griffith School of Environment > Our Research > Systematic quantitative literature review

#### Systematic quantitative literature review

#### Griffith School of Environment

Overview

The systematic quantitative literature review is a smart and effective method for undertaking literature reviews particularly for research students and others new to a discipline.

- Our Research
  - Marine Science Research
  - PhD students
  - Systematic quantitative literature review
- Learning & teaching

#### Reliable, quantifiable and reproducible



It bridges the gap between traditional narrative review methods and meta-analysis. Narrative methods that are commonly used in many research theses, rely on the expertise and experience of the author, making them challenging for novices. In contrast, the method we use and recommend involves systematically searching the literature using online database and other sources to find all relevant papers that fit specific criteria (systematically identifying the literature), entering information about

Here are examples of the types of excel databases used in some Systematic Quantitative Literature Reviews: <u>Steven et al. 2011 database of papers on impacts nature based tourism on birds (XLSX 16KB)</u> <u>Ballantyne and Pickering In review databases of papers on environmental impacts of recreation trails (XLSX 32KB)</u> <u>Byrne and Portanger 2014 database of papers climate change, energy policy and justice (XLSX 48KB)</u>

Source: https://www.griffith.edu.au/environment-planning-architecture/griffith-school-environment/research/systematic-quantitative-literature-review

### Literature review

| Sear<br>Res     |                    |                          | Subjects |                  |                              |                                |           |           |                              |                       |                      |                |                   |                        |                      |                              | Per<br>]  |   | ma<br>ècts                    |                | ce Research Methodologies |                            |                        |             |   |          |      |        |         |                      |               |                  |           |                     | Source information |                             |           |           |             |                  |           |             |                    |                           |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|---|----------|------|--------|---------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| E-collaboration | Project management | manufacturing<br>and wet | design   | rocurement       | planning<br>anolity ao atrol | guardy control<br>preanization | movation  | ) TOCESS  | 1001<br>n raduct comn lexity | in obenent of narrors | concurrent o rod uct | leam structure | ) roject strategy | concurrent engineering | training & rewarding | simp lification of structure | lead user | ouppiner integration<br>witted in reduction | Time Compression Technologies | CAD technology | setting h uffers          | identifying critical chain | develop ment cap acity | techniq ues |   | Lime     | cost | Quanty | variety | ouuer<br>Simula tion | Process Model | Theory -Building | Framework | Case study(small n) | tempurcautarge n)  | Experiment<br>Math Modeline | www-based | Review    | statistical | pattern matching | prototype | pilot study | creative so fiware | References                |
|                 | 7                  |                          |          |                  |                              |                                |           |           |                              |                       |                      |                |                   | -                      |                      | <u>«</u> ,                   | -         | -   |                               | Γ              |                           |                            |                        |             | 1 | 1        |      |        |         |                      |               |                  |           |                     |                    |                             |           |           | 8           | 1                |           | ٦           | 9                  | (Clift, T.B et al 1996)   |
|                 | /                  |                          |          | $\square$        |                              | $\top$                         |           | 1         |                              |                       |                      | 1              | 1                 |                        |                      |                              |           |   |                               | Γ              |                           |                            |                        |             | T |          |      |        | 1       |                      |               |                  |           |                     |                    |                             |           |           | 1           |                  |           | ╡           | 1                  | (Griffin, A 1997)         |
|                 | 1                  |                          |          | $\square$        |                              | $\top$                         | $\square$ | $\square$ |                              | $\top$                |                      |                |                   |                        |                      |                              | $\top$    |   |                               | $\square$      | $\square$                 |                            | 1                      | 1           |   | 1        |      |        |         | $\top$               | $\top$        |                  |           |                     | 1                  | $\top$                      |           |           |             |                  |           | 1           | 1                  | (Carter, 1997)            |
|                 | /                  | $\top$                   | $\top$   | 1                | $\top$                       | $\top$                         | $\top$    | $\square$ | $\top$                       | $\top$                | 1                    |                |                   |                        |                      | $\neg$                       | ╈         | 7√  | $\top$                        | $\top$         | $\square$                 |                            |                        |             |   | 1        |      |        | $\top$  | $\top$               | $\top$        | $\square$        |           | $\top$              | $\top$             | 1                           | 1         |           |             |                  | $\top$    | ┓           | 1                  | (Hartley, J.et al 1997)   |
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|                 | 1                  | ÷                        | +        | $\vdash$         | +                            | 1                              | +         | $\vdash$  |                              | 1                     | /                    | +              | $\vdash$          | +                      | +                    | +                            | +         | +   | +                             | +              | +                         |                            | $\square$              |             |   | Ì        | -    | +      | +       | +                    | +             | <u>↓</u>         |           | +                   | +                  | 1                           | <u> </u>  |           |             | $\vdash$         | +         | +           | ┦                  | (Bashir, H, et al 2008)   |
|                 | <u>,</u>           | +                        | +        | 1                | +                            | +*                             | +         | $\vdash$  | ┦                            |                       |                      | +              | $\vdash$          | +                      | 1                    | 1                            | 1         | +   | +                             | +              | +                         | $\vdash$                   | $\square$              |             |   | v<br>V   | ╢    | +      | 1       |                      | +             | +                | $\vdash$  | 1                   | +                  | +*                          | +         |           | $\square$   | $\vdash$         | +         | +           | ┥                  | (Ahlemann, F. 2009)       |
| J               | v                  |                          |          | <b>  1</b>       | +                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    | +              | $\vdash$          | +                      | v                    | <u>*</u>                     | ¥         | +   | +                             | +              | +                         | $\vdash$                   | $\square$              |             |   |          | 1    | +      | -       | +                    | +             | +                | $\vdash$  | ¥                   | +                  | +                           | +         | +         | $\vdash$    | $\vdash$         | 1         | +           | +                  | (Selvaraj, P. et al 2009) |
|                 | 1                  | +                        | 14       | $\vdash$         | 1                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    | +              | 1                 | +                      | +                    | +                            | +         | +   | +                             | ┢              | 1                         | 1                          | $\square$              | +           |   | <u>v</u> | V I  | +      | +       | 1                    |               | +                | $\vdash$  | +                   | +                  | 1                           | +         | +         | $\vdash$    | $\vdash$         | ¥         | +           | +                  | (Xia-Bao. et al 2009)     |
|                 | √<br>J             | +                        | 1        | $\left  \right $ | 4                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    | +              | 4                 | +                      | -                    | +                            | +         | +   | +                             | +              | 1                         | 4                          |                        | +           |   | *        | -    | J      | +       |                      | +             | +                |           | +                   | +                  | ۲<br>ا                      |           | +         |             | $\vdash$         | +         | +           | +                  | (Lifang W. et al 2009)    |
|                 | v                  | +                        | _        |                  | +                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    | +              | $\vdash$          | +                      | -                    | +                            | +         | +   | +                             | ⊢,             | -                         | -                          |                        | +           | _ | _        | -    | 4      | +       | +                    | +             | +                |           | +                   | +                  | 1                           |           |           |             |                  | +         | +           | +                  |                           |
| 1               | ,                  | -                        | 1        | $\left  \right $ | -                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    | -              |                   | $\dashv$               | -                    | $\dashv$                     | +         | +   | +                             | 1              | +                         |                            |                        | +           |   | _        | 1    |        | +       | +                    | +             | -                |           | 4                   | +                  | +                           | +         |           |             |                  | +         | +           | +                  | (Vinodh, et al 2009)      |
| ·               | <u>،</u>           | _                        | <u> </u> | $\left  \right $ | 1                            | +                              | +         | $\vdash$  | +                            | +                     | +                    |                |                   | $\dashv$               | -                    | -+                           | +         | +   | +                             | +              | $\vdash$                  |                            |                        | +           |   | <u>/</u> | 1    |        | +       | +                    | +             |                  |           | 1                   | +                  |                             | <u> </u>  |           |             |                  | +         | +           | +                  | (Hebert et al 2010)       |
|                 | 1                  | 1                        | /  /     |                  |                              |                                |           |           |                              |                       |                      |                |                   |                        |                      |                              |           |   |                               |                |                           |                            |                        |             | L | 1        |      | •      | 4       |                      |               |                  |           |                     |                    | 1                           |           |           |             |                  |           |             |                    | (Roemer, T. et al 2010)   |

MOHAMMADJAFARI, M., AHMED, S., DAWAL, S. Z. M. & ZAYANDEHROODI, H. 2011 (Article in press). The Importance of Project Management in SMEs for the Development of New Products through E-Collaboration. African Journal of Business Management.

# Tasks for the tenth session

- 1. Write an integrating arguments paragraph
- 2. Write a structured abstract
- 3. Crate a literature review table
- 4. Write a first draft of the literature review manuscript



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### Thank you!

### Nader Ale Ebrahim, PhD

Research Visibility and Impact Consultant





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All of my presentations are available online at: https://figshare.com/authors/Nader\_Ale\_Ebrahim/100797

#### My recent publication:

- A. Ghanbari Baghestan, H. Khaniki, A. Kalantari, M. Akhtari-Zavare, E. Farahmand, E. Tamam, N. Ale Ebrahim, H. Sabani, and M. Danaee, (2019) <u>"A Crisis in "Open Access": Should Communication Scholarly Outputs Take 77 Years to Become Open Access?</u>," SAGE Open, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 1-8,
- 2. Ale Ebrahim, S., Ashtari, A., Pedram, M. Z., & Ale Ebrahim, N. (2019). Publication Trends in Drug Delivery and Magnetic Nanoparticles. Nanoscale Research Letters, 14(59). doi: <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s11671-019-2994-y</u>
- 3. Parnianifard, A., Azfanizam, A., Ariffin, M., Ismail, M., & Ale Ebrahim, N. (2019). Recent developments in metamodel based robust black-box simulation optimization: An overview. Decision Science Letters, 8(1), 17-44. doi:10.5267/j.dsl.2018.5.004. Available at SSRN: <a href="https://srn.com/abstract=3192794">https://srn.com/abstract=3192794</a>
- Elaish, M. M., Shuib, L., Ghani, N. A., Mujtaba, G., & Ale Ebrahim, N. (2019). A Bibliometric Analysis of M-Learning from Topic Inception to 2015. International Journal of Mobile Learning and Organisation, 13(1), 91-112. <u>https://doi.org/10.1504/IJMLO.2019.096470</u>
- Nordin, N., Samsudin, M.-A., Abdul-Khalid, S.-N., & Ale Ebrahim, N. (2019). Firms' sustainable practice research in developing countries: Mapping the cited literature by Bibliometric analysis approach. International Journal of Sustainable Strategic Management, 7(1/2). doi:. <u>https://doi.org/10.1504/IJSSM.2019.099036</u>

#### My recent presentations:

- 1. Ale Ebrahim, Nader (2019): Research Skills Session 9: Writing a Paper. figshare. Presentation. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.11319866.v1
- 2. Ale Ebrahim, Nader (2019): Research Skills Session 8: Avoid Scientific Misconduct. figshare. Presentation. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.11300546.v1
- 3. Ale Ebrahim, Nader (2019): Research Skills Session 7: Indexing Research Tools. figshare. Presentation. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.10992596.v1
- 4. Ale Ebrahim, Nader (2019): Research Skills Session 6: Read a Paper. figshare. Presentation. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.10302095.v1
- 5. Ale Ebrahim, Nader (2019): Research Skills Session 5: Managing Research. figshare. Presentation. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.10257509.v1

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- 2. Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097
- 3. 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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