

Why is the abstract so important?

- Provides all the information needed to judge whether the study is important
- It says everything that the full paper says, but in brief
- People skim the abstracts to decide whether to read the full article
- Your best chance to grab readers' attention

What goes into an abstract?

I	Introduction
M	Method
R	Results
A	And
D	Discussion

Abstracts may be structured using **IMRAD** as headings or unstructured with a single paragraph

But they must contain the **same information** and adhere to a strict word limit — usually **100 to 250 words**

Introduction

State the **problem** — but be **succinct**

- Why is it important?
- How did the study aim to solve it?
- What was the research question?

Method

Briefly describe how the study was conducted

- Define the sample and materials
- Data collection method
- Data analysis method

Results

State the main findings

- Only include the **most important** results
- Highlight the **relationships** that answer the research question

Discussion

State the implications of the findings

- Theoretical significance
- Implementation in practice
- End with a **strong conclusion**

What not to do

- Only cite other work if the study is **directly** related
- Don't state anything that is not in the main text
- Don't use technical terms/jargons that needs to be explained
- Don't use abbreviations unless a term is very long and repetitive

Finally

Check carefully, get others to give feedback, and revise until it can't be improved any more