

Approaches TO Writing Scientific Research Papers

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Abstract

This study explores the methodologies for editing scientific research articles in the field of social sciences, incorporating bibliographic research considerations. Emphasis is placed on organizing and presenting both the formal and conceptual structures of the articles in a coherent manner. While correct formal structures are essential, issues in content often persist. The articles are delineated into specific sections (abstract, keywords, introduction and materials, main topics, conclusion, discussion, conclusions, recommendations, and references), with attention to the conceptual aspects of each segment. The significance of this study lies in guiding authors through the process of crafting bibliographically researched essays and providing insights into initiating and concluding essays within the social sciences. The article employs bibliographic research and descriptive and analytical methods. The key takeaway is the importance of aligning the scientific article with the policies of the institution, maintaining a cohesive formal structure from inception to conclusion, and ensuring a conceptual coherence across all sections. Each segment can be approached with consideration for specific theories.

Keywords: Essay, Social Sciences, Essay Format, Essay Content, Essay Writing.

Introduction

In the realms of quantitative, qualitative, and bibliographic research, the formats and content of research differ significantly yet remain interconnected. This study focuses on elucidating the principles of article writing, particularly in the context of bibliographic research. It is essential to note that numerous journals adopt this format to enhance the prominence of major titles, resulting in occasional deficiencies. However, these journals generally provide comprehensive guidelines for various types of library research and furnish essential terminology for crafting scientific articles. This article delineates the components of an article, spanning from the title to the sources, elucidating how to systematically arrange and organize content while highlighting distinctive features and crucial considerations. Implementation of these guidelines ensures

minimal issues in both the formal and conceptual structure of the author's article.

Research Problems

Researchers frequently encounter challenges related to the article format. This raises questions about whether there is a distinction in the principles of essay writing between the fields of social and scientific sciences. Additionally, researchers grapple with determining whether the formal and conceptual structures of articles remain consistent across quantitative, qualitative, and bibliographic research types. Various complexities arise, such as writers who possess familiarity with the sequential headings in article writing (title, abstract, keywords, introduction and substance, main topic, conclusion, argument, conclusions, recommendations, and references) but still struggle with aspects like articulating theories under each title or determining the

appropriate content for sections like summaries and discussions. These challenges prompted the creation of this article, aiming to address and alleviate some of the difficulties faced by writers in the article writing process.

The Value of Research

Scientific progress is intrinsically tied to research, establishing the profound importance of research in every scientific field. The value of scientific article writing lies in its potential to offer solutions to numerous societal and global challenges. Essay writing, governed by its unique principles and strategy, plays a pivotal role in conveying and comprehending this strategy. The value of understanding the ways of writing an essay becomes apparent, as it provides insight into the methodology and principles inherent in the process.

Contemporary scientific articles necessitate a fresh perspective and theoretical framework, and any discourse essential for scientific articles should be incorporated into current research. Failure to adapt to modern standards in essay writing can impede a country's ability to compete globally and regionally in this domain. In the present era, writing an essay without proper in-text references or adherence to citation styles is insufficient. Thus, considering the above discussion, the value of this article is substantiated, as it underscores the significance of upholding the principles and theories of essay writing in today's scientific landscape.

Objectives of the Study

To examine methods of essay writing in the social sciences, taking into account bibliographic research.

Research Question

How can the methods of essay writing in the social sciences be researched and written from the

beginning to the end, considering bibliographic research?

Historical Background of the Study:

The thesis writing guide article explores the essential components of crafting a thesis, spanning from the title to the references (Hashmi, Syed Asghar, 1396). In a publication in Kabul magazine, Hashmi delves into the comprehensive process of thesis writing, covering aspects from the initiation to the conclusion. While there may be similarities with other articles in certain areas, this work stands apart due to its focus on the principles of theses and its specific consideration of bibliographic research methods. Notably, Hashmi's previous article in 1395 discusses the methods of writing an article, again published in Kabul magazine. This work also addresses the principles of essay writing in the social sciences, incorporating general discussions on various essay types. Despite the presence of similar discussions in other scientific works, Hashmi's contributions in these articles present distinct perspectives and insights, contributing to the field of academic writing.

Methodology

The research process involved an extensive review of various books, during which detailed notes were taken to synthesize relevant information. Subsequently, the writing phase commenced, incorporating insights gained from the literature review. The methodology employed in this research encompassed the library research method, utilizing available scholarly resources, along with descriptive and analytical methods. These methods facilitated a comprehensive examination of the chosen topic, ultimately contributing to the successful completion of the research.

The Main Topic and Content of the Research

This article, centered around the library research type, elucidates the principles and strategies of essay writing in the realm of social sciences. Essays, being integral across diverse scientific domains, hold distinct value in each field, underscoring the importance of professionals engaging in scientific work within their respective disciplines to drive progress.

The process of crafting an academic essay begins with the critical task of selecting a compelling title, as it forms the foundation of the entire work. The abstract should be formulated based on specific theories, adhering to established principles. The introduction serves to highlight the identified problems associated with the chosen topic, clarifying its inherent value, showcasing objectives, answering specific questions, referencing past works critically, and adopting a strategic approach to present the main topic.

The structure of the article follows a systematic pattern, presenting the result, engaging in a comprehensive discussion, drawing conclusions, offering suggestions for future research, and meticulously citing sources according to the APA citation system. Attention is given to integrating citations in the text, aligning with the APA system, and consistently citing quotations within the text. Choosing an impactful title stands out as the initial and crucial step in the process of creating a successful academic article:

A- Title: Choosing a title for a scientific-critical article is a fundamental issue. To select a topic, extensive study, familiarity with research methods, and knowledge of global scientific articles and practices are necessary. After reading the title in the article, the content of the article should be envisioned, and the aspects of the problem should be revealed.

Characteristics of a good headline:

- Represents the entire subject.

- Relates to the original text and topic.
- Keyword links or keywords should be present in the title.
- Short, clear, common sense, and innovative.
- Not vague or clichéd.
- Draws the reader's attention, creating interest and curiosity after reading the research results.
- The title should not be too long, and the main topic should be concise.
- Avoids bringing verbal and spiritual elements into the title. Also, it should not be emotional, poetic, or imaginative.
- The title should not be a news sentence, imperative sentence, or question type.
- Should not be identical to the content's title.
- Demonstrates initiative and creativity.
- Clearly defines its spiritual and temporal boundaries.
- Determined based on theories considering need and value.
- Maximum 14 words and characters.

When writing an article, it's important to strive for all the features mentioned in the title, although not every article may possess all these features. Nevertheless, attention to these characteristics is crucial. During the writing process, make an effort to define the title's boundaries clearly and opt for a concise title. The title need not be exhaustive; it can be partial. If the title is lengthy, it can be modified and shortened during the article evaluation. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), the recommended maximum number of words and characters in the title is 12, but exceptions may be made based on the significance of certain words and ideas. It's essential to strike a balance, ensuring the title is not excessively long, adheres to principles, and maintains clarity. However, if limiting the number of characters jeopardizes the clarity of the article's content, a slight increase

may be permissible, though this should be considered exceptional.

Choosing the title of the research topic requires careful consideration, as a well-crafted title enhances the value of the work. It not only draws numerous readers and enthusiasts to the study but also leaves a lasting impression. Many of us may have come across intriguing titles, and even if we didn't have the time to delve into the entire article, the title might linger in our minds, preserving the allure of studying it. A compelling title not only captures attention but also instills a sense of curiosity and eagerness in readers, fostering a genuine interest in exploring the contents of the article.

B-Abstract (B Titr 12pt): The abstract follows the title in the article and serves as a concise overview. Its purpose is to provide readers with a snapshot of the entire text, making it a crucial element for those with limited time.

A well-crafted abstract has the following characteristics

- Ranging from 150 to 250 words, should not be a mere copy-paste from the main text or introduction.
- Instead, it should include a brief introduction of the topic, highlighting its value, objectives, need, strategy, and results.
- The font size for the abstract is (B Nazanin 12pt Italic).
- The abstract should be engaging, creating interest for readers to explore the complete text.
- It should present a clear image of the main subject, keeping it related to the content. References are not included in the abstract.
- It is written in the past tense and presented in a single paragraph, adhering to character limits.

- Additionally, the abstract should be translated into one of the international languages recognized by UNESCO.

C - Keywords: Keywords are placed at the conclusion of the abstract to aid in text comprehension.

When reviewing a summary, the inclusion of keywords is crucial. By examining the keywords, the reader should be able to discern the content of the article and easily locate the necessary information. Keywords also play a vital role in discovering scholarly articles and materials online.

The following guidelines are to be followed for selecting keywords:

- Keywords should be related to the title and the main text, selected from the same sections.
- Utilize commonly used words throughout the text.
- Avoid using compound words.
- Relate to subject headings.
- Organize keywords alphabetically.
- Include a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 7 words.
- Arrange keywords one after the other alphabetically.
- The font size for keywords is (B Nazanin 12pt).
- Keywords should be translated into Times New Roman 11pt and accompanied by an English summary in the subsequent section.

Introduction (B Nazanin 12pt, bold): Each institution has its unique style for crafting a scientific article, and researchers are obligated to adhere to a specific strategy for thesis writing. The standard format for a scientific article involves using A4 paper, employing B Nazanin 12pt font with single spacing between letters. Times New Roman is to be used for any English text within the article. The margins for the article

text should be 30 mm on all four sides of the A4 paper, ensuring uniformity on the top, bottom, left, and right. Headings throughout the text are presented in B Nazanin 12pt bold. Crucial elements to be included in the introduction encompass research problems, the research's value, objectives, research questions, and, if applicable, the research hypothesis. Additionally, the historical background and strategy related to the subject should be addressed in the introduction.

Subject Problems:

In problem-oriented research, the identification and resolution of issues play a central role. All research topics involve a discussion and exploration of problems in terms of their causes and effects.

The introduction should encompass:

- Presentation of identified problems.
- Explanation of the reasons for selecting the topic.
- Description of the topic, outlining its scope.
- Identification of gaps or voids that prompted the research.

The Value of the Subject:

The articulation of the subject's value is essential and should address:

- Explanation of the significance of the chosen topic.
- Clarification of why this specific topic was selected and its associated benefits.

Objectives of the Subject:

Objectives should be:

- Directly related to questions, hypotheses, and the main topic.
- Few in number, with consideration given to the number of questions.
- Concisely formulated, with a preference for setting fewer goals.

Topic Questions:

When framing questions related to the topic:

- Ensure questions are aligned with the subject matter.
- Keep the number of questions limited and focused.
- Include answers to the questions within the topic.
- Formulate clear and unambiguous questions.
- Clearly define and articulate the limitations of the study.

5. Historical Background of the Study:

- Illuminate the nature of past sources related to the subject (ontology).
- Identify and acknowledge previous works on the topic (cognitive).
- Conduct a critical examination of past sources.
- Emphasize the distinctions between your work and prior research.
- Highlight the accomplishments of your work in contrast to previous efforts.
- Address the limitations or weaknesses observed in prior works, justifying the need for new research.
- Reference past sources, including articles, books, theses, dissertations, and other bibliographic materials. This section considers the publication details of books, including author names, subject titles, and historical context. It delves into the collection of information, achievements, theories, and problems addressed by earlier researchers, shedding light on both their successes and the unresolved issues that this current research aims to address.

The following sentences provide a corrected version:

- **Completed Works:** Enumerate the studies and projects that have been undertaken in this particular field.
- **Vacant Areas:** Highlight sections where no prior research or work has been conducted.
- **Researcher's Aspirations:** Clearly outline the researcher's plans for addressing the unexplored areas, specifying the intended contributions and planned investigations for this section.

Research Strategy:

- **Efficiency Assessment:** Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the chosen research strategy.
- **Material Collection Process:** Describe the procedures for collecting materials, including reading, note-taking, and information presentation.
- **Research Type and Method:** Clearly articulate the chosen research type and methodology.
- **Interrelation:** Establish the connections between the main topic, research type, and methodology.

Understanding the theoretical framework of the selected research type and methodology is crucial. For instance, in the analytical method, the following steps are involved:

- **Observation:** Gain insight into the nature of the subject through careful observation.
- **Problem Identification:** Identify and delineate the research problems.
- **Problem Description:** Articulate a comprehensive description of the identified problems.

- **Critical Analysis:** Integrate critical thinking into the analysis process.
- **Material Sorting:** Categorize and organize relevant materials.
- **Material Organization:** Systematically arrange the gathered materials.
- **Writing Process:** Compile and write the research materials.
- **Achievements:** Summarize the outcomes and achievements of the research endeavor.

H - Main Topic:

The primary focus of the scientific-research article lies within this section. Here, the author presents evidence, explanations, and analyses, ensuring the originality of the title and other headings within the text. The author has the flexibility to break down the main title into sub-headings, strategically placing them in the text to fulfill the research objectives, showcasing innovation and uniqueness. It is imperative that the main title correlates with other headings, with sub-headings establishing meaningful connections. The content of each title, irrespective of its size, should maintain equilibrium in terms of both quantity and quality. Clear separation and meaningful relationships among the main research title, major headings, and minor headings are crucial. While the headings are content-driven, maintaining organization around the main topic is essential. The text must be free from spelling and grammatical errors, ensuring correct syntax and a scholarly and academic tone. Language should be both simple and profound, fostering clarity and common understanding. Sentences should be concise yet impactful, utilizing standard language with minimal dialectal influences. Headings without significance or relevance to the main topic should be avoided. In essence, as Rohi (2005, p. 204) aptly noted, finding a suitable research topic is a challenging task. The ideal topic aligns with the researcher's interests,

academic capabilities, intellectual capacity, and personal passion, marking the completion of a significant portion of the work.

Further information about the main subject is also highlighted elsewhere: "It is imperative for the researcher to take into account his interests, expertise, profession, information capital, resources, and tools when selecting a subject. Simultaneously, the researcher should evaluate the scientific and social value of the chosen subject, considering its potential benefits to others. By presenting new and more reliable information on the relevant subject, the research contributes to enhancing people's knowledge and information (Hashmi, 1399, p. 296)." The prescribed font type and size for the text are B Nazanin 12pt. It is essential to maintain a logical order within this section, where the main title and other sub-headings collectively contribute to the coherence of the essay's main topic.

- Substantiate the novelty, accuracy, and authenticity of the topic.
- Provide a thorough analysis and interpretation of the topic.
- Establish a meaningful and systematic relationship between each part.
- Utilize appropriate letter signs.
- Include references in the (APA) system style within the main topic.
- Present end-of-text citations in (APA) style.

G-Result

- Use "B Nazanin 12pt, Bold" for the conclusion section heading.
- After completing the main topic and conducting the research from start to finish, present the conclusion.
- Convey the results in a way that demonstrates the conclusion of the topic, providing a scientific description of the achievement.

- The content of this section should seamlessly integrate with the rest of the text.
- Provide answers to both main and sub-questions in this section.
- Clearly indicate that the answers to the questions can be found in the results.
- In this section, the author achieves their goals, proves their hypothesis, and indicates the correctness or incorrectness of the hypothesis.
- Include suggestions for future research and addressing the problems and gaps for other researchers in the future.
- Avoid including references in the results section.
- The author should describe any hypotheses proven and answers found during the course of the work in this section.
- Maintain a font size of "B Nazanin 12pt."
- In this regard, it is stated: "The conclusion should be short and concise, presenting the product of the research article in simple language to the readers. The volume of the conclusion depends on the entire article's size and the text of the article" (Javed, 1393, p. 415).

H-The discussion follows the results and holds a unique and significant position in the subject.

Include the following elements in the discussion:

- Introduce your work and distinguish it from other works.
- Identify gaps in previous research and highlight how the new work addresses these gaps, providing solutions.
- Conduct a comparative analysis of the results of the new work with those of previous scientific works.
- Clearly present the results.

- Demonstrate positive achievements through the results.
- Ensure that the font size remains consistent with the overall formatting, for example, using "B Nazanin 12pt" for the text in this section.

I-Results and Findings: Final conclusions are essential in research writings and are often required in various presentations. Include the following elements:

- Every researcher poses questions and initiates scientific efforts to address these questions.
- Summarize the topic and present the conclusion.
- Explain the methods used to prove hypotheses.
- Present the discovered answers to the posed questions and document them in the results.
- Ensure that the font size remains consistent with the overall formatting, for example, using "B Nazanin 12pt" for the text in this section.

J- Suggestions: Upon completion of the research and presentation of results, it is crucial to provide practical suggestions for implementing the findings and encouraging further comprehensive research on the same topic in the future. These suggestions should be clear and well-founded, serving as the concluding remarks of the research. Within this section, recommendations are extended to fellow researchers for enhancing the topic and rectifying any deficiencies in the study's design. Ensure that the font size aligns with the established formatting guidelines, such as "B Nazanin 12pt" for the text.

K-Bibliography (B Nazanin 12pt, Bold): According to the Ministry of Higher Education's guidelines, references within the text should adhere to the APA style. The font size for the

national language is (12pt), and for English, it is (11pt). In-text citations should include the author's surname first, followed by a comma, the year of publication, another comma, and the page number, for example: (Hashimi, research institutions, p. 140). In English, it is formatted as follows: (Hashimi, 2012, p. 150).

At the end, the sources are listed as follows: (Hashmi, Syed Asghar. (1401). A Study of Philanthropy in Pashto Poetry (Second Period). Nangarhar: Hashimi Kitab Plurji.

In the sources section, it is important to include the following points:

- By citing sources, it becomes evident to the readers that the author has utilized both primary (first-hand) and secondary (second-hand) sources. It indicates how many sources have been studied. References play a crucial role in essay writing, providing direction to scientific work and establishing its reliability.
- The emergence of new facts.
- The risk of plagiarism, where unauthorized use of others' work may occur.
- The potential loss of knowledge about previous information.
- The ability to prove the accuracy of the research.
- An important consideration in the sources section is the use of quotations from other sources in the text, and generally, there are three types of quotations, namely:

I. Direct Quotation:

In direct quotation, the researcher quotes from first-hand (main) and second and third-hand (subsidiary) sources without making any changes. A direct quote is employed to confirm an opinion or to highlight errors in the quoted

material for the readers. Direct quotes should have the following characteristics:

- They should be short and not exceed one page.
- Before quoting, the researcher must ensure that the author's words are accurate and refer to the main reference for emphasis. Failure to refer to the original sources when quoting may introduce inaccuracies into the research.
- When quoting, the researcher should prioritize reliability and exercise caution in presenting the passages.
- If the quotation extends beyond one page, the researcher should not quote the entire passage. Instead, they should read the passage and provide a concise summary in their own words, referencing the source at the end.
- If the researcher adds phrases related to their thoughts and opinions within the quotation, these additional phrases should be enclosed in double parentheses (()) to distinguish them from the original quote.

2. Summary Quotation:

Researchers often incorporate the ideas of other writers, supplementing them with their own insights. However, directly copying the writings of other scholars can inflate the research's volume. To circumvent this issue, researchers skillfully and succinctly rephrase the opinions of scholars in their own research language. The sources are then acknowledged at the end to maintain academic integrity and give credit to the original authors.

3. Indirect Quotation (Indirect Quotation):

Indirect quotation involves incorporating the content and meaning of a text into one's work, blending it with personal insights. Authors exhibit distinct writing styles, and directly

copying their language can disrupt the reading experience. However, by rephrasing information in one's own words and style, the reader finds the text more accessible. When employing indirect quotations, it is essential to summarize, indicate sources, and modify phrases while quoting.

Additional considerations for quoting include:

- When translating a quote from one language to another (e.g., Persian, Urdu, English), the source should be acknowledged at the end of the translation, not within the paragraphs. However, the language from which it is translated should be mentioned in a footnote.
- If using a work in the same language (e.g., Pashto) and summarizing a section, the source should be indicated at the end without including it in the lines.
- For quotes of one line, display them in the text; for longer quotes, it is preferable to include them at the end. The citation format should include the author's name followed by a colon and the text.
- Quotes should maintain the original form, and any errors in the quotation should be noted in a footnote.
- If a summarized quote involves omitting portions from the beginning, middle, or end, use ellipses (...) to indicate the omission in the respective location.
- If adding words or phrases to the quote, enclose the additions in two large brackets ([]).

4. Qualities of Quotations:

Sources play a crucial role in research papers, and using each source as a quote should adhere to the following characteristics:

- Utilizing the words, ideas, and thoughts of another author in a direct quotation is an ethical practice for the researcher.

- If a sentence in the text is exceptionally well-crafted and meaningful, it should be presented in its original form.
- When using a source and bringing in a sentence or phrase in a brief and concise manner, avoid attempting to condense it further. Quotations should be presented in their original form.
- Adhering to the citation guidelines outlined above is imperative for the researcher (Abbasi, 2015, p. 53).
- While there are additional features related to quotation display, the ones mentioned above are essential considerations.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study aimed to elucidate the principles of essay writing, particularly in the context of bibliographic (review) research papers. It highlighted the necessary components of a scientific-research article, delving into the characteristics of each section, such as title, abstract, keywords, introduction, main topic, conclusion, discussion, columns, recommendations, and references. The research provided insights into selecting a compelling title, formulating a theoretical abstract, and establishing the interconnectedness of different parts within an article.

The findings contribute valuable guidance to researchers engaged in thesis writing, particularly in the social sciences, offering a framework tailored to the nuances of bibliographic research. The study serves as a resource for understanding how to craft a well-structured and cohesive thesis, aligning with the specific requirements of this research genre.

Discussion

While acknowledging previous works that touched upon thesis writing methods and article composition, this research maintains its distinct focus on bibliographic research within the social

sciences. It acknowledges similarities with other research types but emphasizes the unique considerations inherent in bibliographic studies. In addressing potential controversy, it recognizes previous works such as "Thesis Writing Methods" and "How to Write an Article" but asserts its specific contribution in detailing the principles of essay writing within the realm of bibliographic research. The study's title, content, conclusion, and scope differentiate it from previous research, emphasizing its unique insights and approach.

Results

This study has successfully uncovered the fundamental principles of crafting a scientific-research article. Each section, from the title to the references, has been meticulously examined to showcase its inherent value and establish meaningful connections with other sections. The study delves into the interrelation of content with major and minor titles, elucidates the theoretical underpinnings of each segment, and addresses various crucial aspects.

The key characteristics of a compelling title have been outlined, providing valuable insights into the art of titling. The theoretical foundations of abstracts are expounded upon, shedding light on the significance of this crucial section. The study further offers descriptive accounts of the value inherent in both the introduction and materials sections. Additionally, it provides guidelines for navigating the complexities of the main topic, emphasizing the importance of findings, arguments, conclusions, recommendations, and references.

In essence, the results of this study contribute a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies involved in composing a scientific-research article. The insights garnered from the examination of each section empower writers with the knowledge to create well-structured and impactful research papers in the academic realm.

Suggestions

- **Expand to Other Research Types:**

Emphasize the importance of extending the revealed principles and theories of essay writing beyond bibliographic research. Explore how these insights can be applied and adapted in the contexts of quantitative, qualitative, and other scientific research domains.

- **Highlighting Differences:**

Provide a detailed exploration of the distinctions between bibliographic, quantitative, and qualitative research methodologies. Clearly articulate the unique characteristics and requirements of each type, enabling researchers to navigate and conduct studies more effectively within these frameworks.

- **In-Depth Investigation:**

Conduct further research that delves into the intricacies of each section, from the title to the sources, within the context of various research types. Uncover new theories and principles specific to different types of research papers, offering a nuanced understanding for scholars and writers in diverse academic disciplines.

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