

Some Rules for Writing Articles Relevant To Your Class Papers
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1. The final abstract of a paper is a detailed summary of its contents. This is different to a preliminary abstract when the work is still to be done. In standard journal format the abstract is all in one paragraph and is about one page long. (Note that thesis abstracts are usually longer and about 2-3 pages).
2. Make sure you include a list of key words after the abstract. These are important words that help to indicate the content of the paper
3. The introduction to an article may overlap a little with the abstract but it is distinctly different in purpose. Begin by describing the topic you are considering and give some history of previous work on this topic. Conclude the introduction with a description of each section of the paper with about one sentence per section.
4. Attempt to use a variety of sources in your articles and not just one. However, for some of you there may be one very important one.
5. The paper must end with a conclusion section. This should always be oriented towards the future and include some suggestions for future research. In your case this may be difficult but do your best to suggest future directions
6. "Data" is a plural noun and thus, "the data are significant" is correct!
7. Numbers from 0-9 are written in words, 10 onwards, in numerals
8. Usually 1000s have no spaces, 10 000 is the international scientific notation (as commas are used as decimal markers in French)
9. *et al.* or et al. (Italics or underlined)
10. Affects = a verb; Effects = a noun
11. It's = it is; its = possessive; one's = one is; ones = possessive
12. Use a comma before ",but" and after "respectively,"
13. Do not abbreviate e.g., don't = do not etc.
14. e.g., i.e., (is the correct format)
15. Do not use "you" or "your", instead use "one" or "ones"
11. Avoid expressions such as "we note that.." "as I stated above..."
12. In single authored papers, do not use "we" if you are writing about your own ideas, work, etc.
13. Use past tense for reporting any research that has been done.
14. You are encouraged to use the active rather than the passive voice:
e.g., " Pollock (1995) stated that....." instead of " It was stated by Pollock (1995) that ..."
15. Cite page number in text if using quotations.
16. Cite authors in text with last name and date e.g., Brown (2000) said ...
.....the statistic was consistent (Brown, 2000; Smith *et al.* 2000).
17. Use numerals for days, weeks, months, years....e.g., 6 days etc.
18. Italicize all symbols in text and in equations
19. Use double spacing and do not type on the back of the pages
20. Do not use the & sign..write out "and"
21. "cannot" is one word

22. Avoid “a lot” use many, much etc.
23. Do not start a sentence with “and” or “but” or “also”.
24. Table and Figure legends should be very informative so that the table can be understood almost without reference to the text.
25. Check that all references cited in the text are also listed at the end of the paper in alphabetical order by author’s last name.
26. Format references as follows:

Book chapter:

Pollock, K. H., Marsh, H., Bailey, L. L., Farnsworth, G. L., Simons, T. R., and Alldredge, M. W. (2004). Separating components of detection probability in abundance estimation: An overview with diverse examples. In *Sampling Rare and Elusive Species: Concepts, Designs and Techniques for Estimating Population Parameters*, W. L Thompson (ed), Washington D. C.: Island Press.

Book:

Seber, G. A. F. (1982). *The Estimation of Animal Abundance and Related Parameters*, 2nd edition. London: Griffin.

Journal article:

Bailey, L. L., Simons, T. R., and Pollock, K. H. (2004). Estimating detectability parameters for plethodon salamanders using the robust capture-recapture design. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 68, 1-13.

Note: There are many formats possible and used by different journals but lets all use this one for your papers.