

# Guidelines for Writing an Effective Scientific Abstract

An **abstract** is a summary of a professional scientific paper. It appears at the beginning of the paper and includes information on: a) the problem studied, b) the key findings, and c) their significance.

## **Statement of the Problem:**

Do the first two sentences set the context and engage the reader's interest?

What problem does the summarized paper address?

## **Summary of Key Findings:**

Does the abstract include the article's essential findings? Should anything extraneous be left out? Does any key information seem to be lacking?

Are the results presented in a logical order?

Is the abstract unified by clear connections between the results?

## **Significance and Application:**

Does the abstract sufficiently demonstrate how the research improves the reader's understanding of the problem studied in the article?

Are these statements **clear, precise, and specific**?

## **General Format and Style:**

Is the abstract a single paragraph?

Are most of the sentences simple, declarative statements?

Avoid the use of adjectives and verbs, unless they are quantitative.

Avoid vague and general statements that do not convey specific information.

Use standard conventions of grammar, spelling, and punctuation.