



秒懂英文學術文獻在公蝦毀

**TIPS TO BECOMING AN
EFFECTIVE READER OF
RESEARCH ARTICLES**

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1999	美國紐約州立大學水牛城分校 英語教學碩士
2010	美國加州州立大學河濱分校 課程與教學博士
現今-2012	國立交通大學英語教學研究所/語言教學與研究中心 助理教授 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 指導英教所研究生論文● 教授研究所課程“研究生論文寫作”“質性研究”“英語教學理論與方法”及大學部語言課程，● 提供英文寫作諮詢、學術英文相關講座
研究領域	第二外語課程理論與教學；社會文化理論與第二語言學習

COMMON PROBLEMS IN READING RESEARCH ARTICLES IN ENGLISH

- I feel frustrated because there are so many unfamiliar words when reading research articles. Do I have to look up all these words in a dictionary?
- I look up words in a dictionary, I still don't know the meaning of the word.
- I look up all the new words, but I still have no idea about the main points of the article.
- I carefully analyze the grammatical structures in all sentences, but I still am not sure if I read the article right.
- It takes me forever to read a research article in English, how do I speed up my reading rate?

UNRAVEL THE MYTH OF READING RESEARCH ARTICLES IN ENGLISH

- Your vocabulary knowledge doesn't guarantee your comprehension of research articles.
- Looking up dictionary frequently and focusing on the grammatical structures in the reading process may interfere with your reading comprehension.
- Effective readers usually guess the meaning of words from context.
- Only use dictionary when a word is the key to comprehend the content.
- Since reading is the process of getting ideas from the author, you must focus on the author's thoughts, not just read the words and sentences on the paper.
- Because research articles are different from other texts (e.g., novels or newspaper stories), they should be read differently.
- Understand how information is structured in research articles will help you become an effective reader of research articles.

OUTLINE

- **How information is structured in research articles**
- **How to approach research articles**
- **Common scenarios in reading research articles**
- **How to develop reading habits as a graduate student**
- **Resources for learning academic English at NCTU**

ARE ALL JOURNAL ARTICLES THE SAME?



DIFFERENT TYPES OF JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Literature reviews
2. Theoretical reviews
3. Research reports

from: Reading journal articles

LITERATURE REVIEWS

Purpose

Analyze and consolidate the findings of other authors so as to give a more critical and cohesive view of a topic.

Format

Focus on analysis of research on a general topic through:

- ✓ Overview of information from previous publications
- ✓ Identification of relationships/contradictions/gaps in current knowledge
- ✓ Recommendations and suggestions for future work

THEORETICAL REVIEWS

Purpose

Present new theories or challenge existing theories.

Format

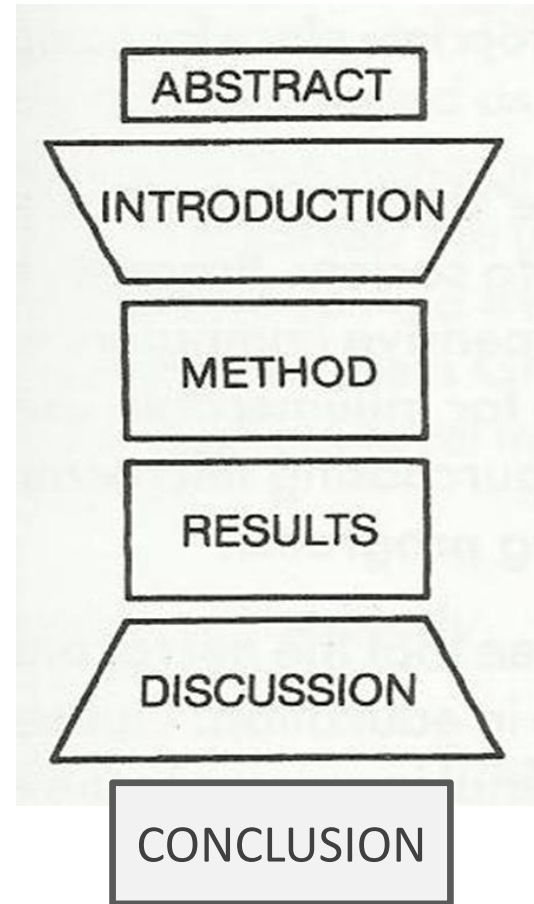
The authors usually trace a theory's development, and then expand on it, proposing their own refinements

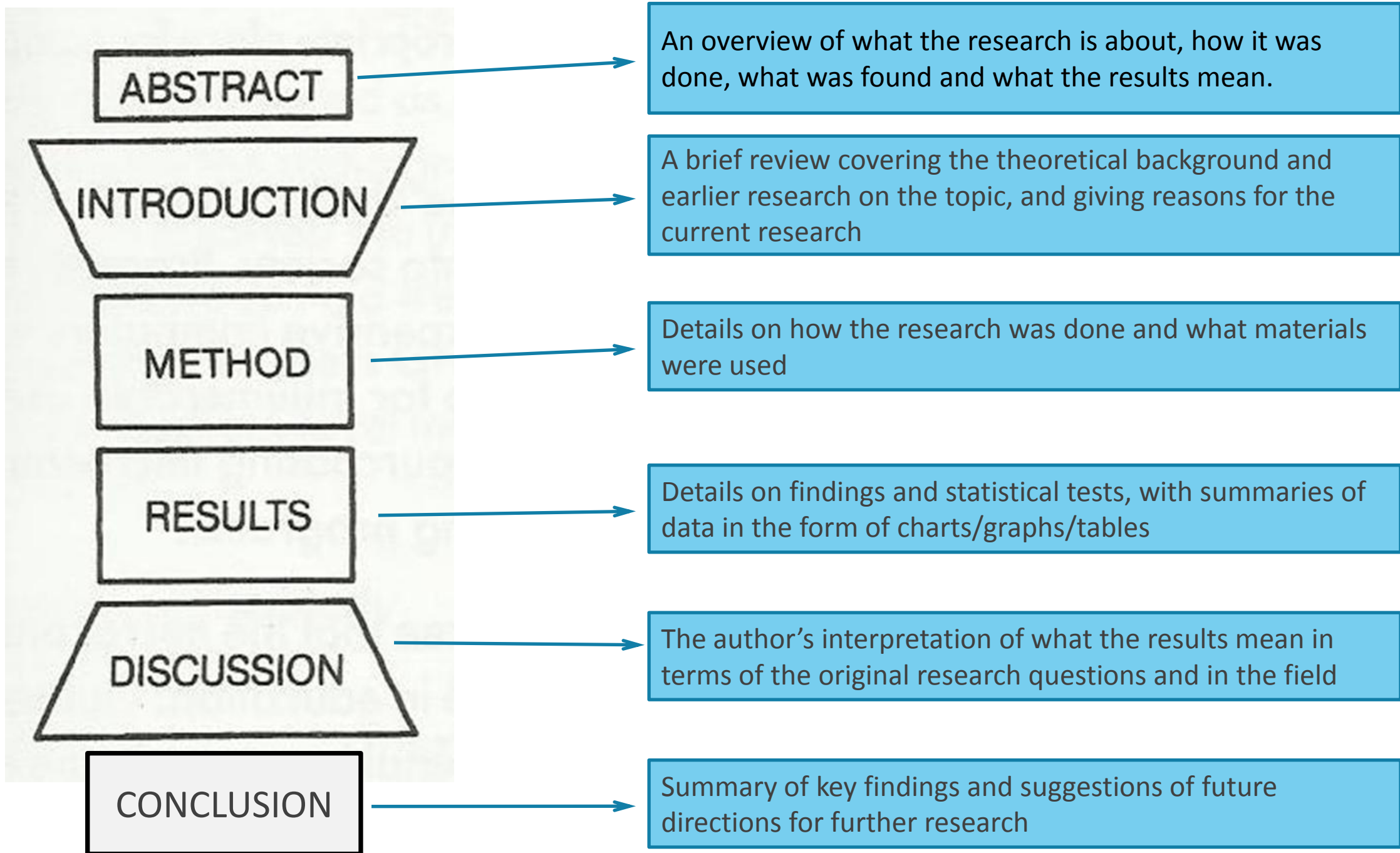
RESEARCH REPORTS (EMPIRICAL STUDIES)

Purpose

Give first-hand accounts of original research.

Format





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HOW TO APPROACH ARTICLES

- Reading a research report is not a linear process (i.e., from beginning to end).
- Depending on your reading purposes, you may have to go backwards and forwards, take notes and have multiples tabs opened in your browser.
- The following strategies help you read research articles efficiently:
 - ✓ Identifying your reading purposes
 - ✓ Skimming
 - ✓ Re-reading for detail
 - ✓ Challenging what you read
 - ✓ Taking notes

IDENTIFYING YOUR READING PURPOSES

- Read the title, key words, and abstract and decide if you should read it, file it or skip it.
- Once you decide to read it, ask yourself, “Why am I reading?” and “What do I want to get out of this article?”
 - ✓ overview → skimming
 - ✓ a presentation → reading thoroughly and challenging the author’s arguments
 - ✓ may need the information later → taking notes

SKIMMING

- Skimming helps you predict the main points and build a framework to follow the author's path.
- Quickly skim the title, introduction, section headings, subheadings, and conclusions to give you a big picture of what the author did.
- Note key terms and parts you don't understand (without looking into dictionary) for further reading.

RE-READING FOR DETAIL

- Read the article again and ask yourself:
 - ✓ What problem is the study trying to solve?
 - ✓ What methods was used to solve the problem?
 - ✓ What are the major findings?

- If you are unfamiliar with key concepts and terms, look for them in the literature/dictionary.

CHALLENGING WHAT YOU READ

- Read with scientific skepticism by
 - ✓ Examining the assumptions (Do their results rely on any assumptions?)
 - ✓ Examining the methods (Did they measure what they claim? What was the sample size? Is it representative of the larger population?)
 - ✓ Examining the findings (Were appropriate statistical tests applied? Are the findings unique or supported by other relevant work?)
 - ✓ Examining the discussion/conclusions (Do the conclusion follow a logic follow? What other explanations are there?)

- Ask yourself “How can you apply their approach to your own work?”

TAKING NOTES

- Taking notes helps you understand what you read and saves you effort in the future.
- Highlight major points.
- React to the points in the paper (e.g., correlation to other work, your doubt on a statement, good quotation).
- Construct your own example to help you understand terminologies and difficult concepts.
- Summarize what you read (e.g., main points, what you've learned) in your own words.

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SCENARIO I

- You are a first-year graduate student. You are not familiar with a research area and need background information.
- Reading Strategies:

- ✓ Read the introduction carefully, skim the method and result sections, and then read the discussion carefully.
- ✓ For a literature review article, focus on the overview section to understand the major findings of this area.

SCENARIO II

- You have some ideas about your research area, but are not sure if the article is relevant to your research topic or not.
- Reading Strategies:

- ✓ To gain the overview of the whole study, read the introduction. Focus on the end of the introduction where research purposes are presented.
- ✓ To gain the overview of the results, read the beginning of the discussion section where the major results are presented.

SCENARIO III

- You are reading a bunch of articles about the same topic and you are already familiar with the background information. Your primary goal is to learn the major findings of the particular study.
- Reading Strategies:

Read the abstract to decide if you should keep reading it → skim the introduction → carefully read the methods and discussion sections (main findings are usually summarized in the discussion section) → read the result section with critical skepticism, not just accept the author's interpretation.

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HOW TO DEVELOP READING HABITS AS A GRADUATE STUDENT

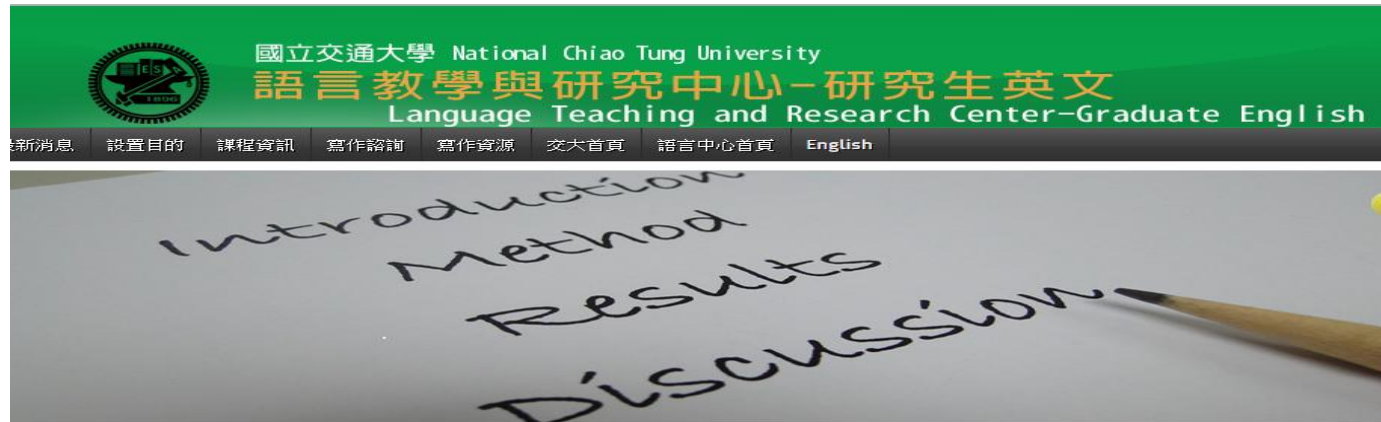
- Read daily/regularly.
- Find a nice place and good time to engage in reading.
- Establish an academic vocabulary bank and sentence pattern log.
- Take notes and organize your notes.
- Prioritize your reading list.
- Make academic reading social.

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RESOURCES FOR LEARNING ACADEMIC ENGLISH AT NCTU

Graduate English Website <http://ltrc-ge.nctu.edu.tw/>



- » 最新消息
- » 設置目的
- » 課程資訊
 - » 選課方式
 - » 開設課程
 - » 研究生英文：句法與段落寫作
 - » 研究生英文：研究論文寫作
 - » 研究生英文：口語發表與討論
- » 寫作諮詢
- » 寫作資源
 - » 參考用書
 - » 相關連結
 - » 線上字典

標題

- 102學年度研究生英文課程課名更動公告
- 語言中心懇請本校碩博生撥冗填寫問卷
- 101學年度第一學期 研究生英文工作坊系列
- [資料下載]專題演講：學術英文的科學分析 (日本早稻田大學 Prof. Laurence Anthony)
- 專題演講：學術英文的科學分析 (日本早稻田大學 Prof. Laurence Anthony)

顯示數目 ▼

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING ACADEMIC ENGLISH AT NCTU

Courses on Graduate English

- ✓ 句法與段落寫作/ Sentence Structure & Paragraph Writing
- ✓ 研究論文寫作/ Research Paper Writing
- ✓ 口語討論與發表/ Oral Discussion & Presentation

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING ACADEMIC ENGLISH AT NCTU

English Writing Consultation

http://ltrc.nctu.edu.tw/room/announcement_o.php?id=206

106學年度上學期 交通大學語言中心

英語寫作諮詢服務

106-1 English Writing Consultation, LTRC, NCTU

活動宗旨：提升本校師生英文寫作相關知識與能力。

活動師資：本校語言中心中、外籍教師。

諮詢對象：本校教師及學生

諮詢範圍：英文學術期刊論文、英文學術簡報、英文碩博士論文、英文讀書計畫、工作履歷及TOEFL/GEPT...等考試相關寫作問題。

諮詢方式：一對一方式，每次25分鐘，參加者須攜帶自己擬訂之寫作主題、段落或文章（列印為紙本一式兩份，不接受電子檔案版）及學生證。

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING ACADEMIC ENGLISH AT NCTU

Speech/Workshops

- Understanding Writing and Oral Presentation English in Science and Engineering: A Scientific Analysis
- Genre analysis and self-directed learning of academic English
- Online Tools for Academic English Writing
- Writing Research Reports: Starting with the “Introduction”
- Research Writing: Methods & Procedures
- English for Presentations at International Conferences
- 英文論文寫作：如何用有限的英文力，不抄襲，順利寫出期刊論文

SOME GOOD QUOTES

“Reading academic articles is a skillful practice: you get better the more you do it—but only if you practice effectively.”

From “Reading academic articles”

“Reading a scientific paper ... should be done strategically and with a critical mindset, questioning your understanding and the findings.”

From “How to read scientific papers”

REFERENCES

英文文獻的閱讀技巧 <https://sites.google.com/site/thesisezwrite/ying-wen-wen-xian-de-yue-du-ji-qiao>

台大符碧真教授 如何閱讀原文書 <http://ctld.ntu.edu.tw/lr/learninggate/lecture.php?index=21>

台大石美倫博士 閱讀技巧 <http://ctld.ntu.edu.tw/lr/strategy/lecture.php?index=67>

清大彭明輝教授 期刊論文閱讀技巧 http://ocw.nctu.edu.tw/speech_detail.php?gid=6&nid=321

交大陳昭秀教授 英文期刊論文閱讀 <https://ir.nctu.edu.tw/bitstream/11536/125217/1/2009-01-001.pdf>

Efficient Reading of Papers in Science and Technology <http://www.cs.columbia.edu/~hgs/netbib/efficientReading.pdf>

How to Read an Academic Paper https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKxm2HF_-k0

How to Read and Comprehend Scientific Research Articles <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2K6mJkSWoA>

How to Read a Scientific Paper <https://www.elsevier.com/connect/infographic-how-to-read-a-scientific-paper>

Reading Academic Articles
https://emedia.rmit.edu.au/learninglab/sites/default/files/Reading_academic_articles_accessible_2015.pdf

Reading Empirical Journal Articles <https://psych.hanover.edu/classes/PSY220/ReadingArticles.htm>

Reading Journal Articles <http://www.cdtl.nus.edu.sg/success/sl12.htm>

Reading and Highlighting Tips <https://www.academictips.org/acad/literature/readingandhighlighting.html>

Strategies for Reading Academic Articles <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/guides/strategies-for-reading-academic-articles>

Questions and Comments



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