WK07 READING

***Task 1: Identify the types of information (namely purpose, methods, results etc.) in the Abstract of Unit 4 Text I, and determine whether this abstract fits into the basic structural pattern you worked out in the last unit.***

**Abstract: [BACKGROUND]** Several projects and measures have been developed to enhance the design of public roads. Nevertheless, the critics of their design remain numerous. **[\_1\_]** To further the discussion on road aesthetics, this paper makes suggestions for a more consistent terminology and presents a theoretical framework for assessing the visual quality of roads. **[\_2\_]** Based on a literature review, **[\_3\_]** twelve visual characteristics are identified: coherence, imageability, simplicity, visibility, maintenance, naturalness, integration, contrast, variety, aesthetics of flow, legibility and orientation.These characteristics are presented and described and where possible their theoretical and empirical backing is given. **[\_4\_]** Only a few visual characteristics in road design have been subjected to empirical perception studies, so their importance for road users and residents remains unclear.

[\_1\_]: Purpose/problem

[\_2\_]: Method

[\_3\_]: Result

[\_4\_]: Discussion

***Task 2: Answer the following questions based on Unit 4 Text I.***

1. What does the key word “road aesthetics” refer to, and how important is it?

“Road aesthetics” refers to the aesthetic perception of the roads and streets in terms of their visual design instead of their functions.

Roads represent “one of the most widespread modes of landscape perception today” and often give us “a first impression of the landscapes we are visiting”, underpinning their importance in our everyday life.

1. What problems of road design have been identified by the authors?

Criticisms of road design remain numerous.

There is no consistent terminology or theoretical framework for assessing the visual quality of roads.

Existing theoretical frameworks cannot be directly used in road projects.

1. What does this literature review focus on?

Road aesthetics or visual characteristics of everyday roads.

1. What is the purpose of this review article?

To make suggestions for a more consistent terminology for assessing the visual quality of roads.

1. What types of literature were collected and reviewed?

34 handbooks published by the Norwegian Public Roads Administration related to the design of roads, streets and their elements.

Journals and design guidelines for single road projects published after the year 2000.

42 Scientific papers and publications since the 1960s.

1. What are the steps to compile the reviewed literature?

Identify terms, proposed measures and other aesthetical statements about the visual quality of roads.

Classify them thematically, grouping synonyms and terms used interchangeably in the literature.

The terminology was systematized in two different levels of abstraction: visual design principles for concrete measures and visual characteristics for more generally formulated visual features of a road.

1. What is the contribution of this study according to the Abstract?

It identified 12 visual characteristics: coherence, imageability, simplicity, visibility, maintenance, naturalness, integration, contrast, variety, aesthetics of flow, legibility and orientation. It also identified areas for empirical perception studies in the future.

1. The title of this review article is “Visual Characteristics of Roads: A Literature Review of People’s Perception and Norwegian Design Practice”, reflecting its focus and orientation. Accordingly, what or how many visual characteristics of roads have been identified? What perception do people commonly hold towards road design and aesthetics? What theoretical or practical implications would the findings have for this industry?
   1. 12 coherence, imageability, simplicity, visibility, maintenance, naturalness, integration, contrast, variety, aesthetics of flow, legibility and orientation.
   2. Road design and aesthetics are often perceived as a lack of individual character of identity, too gray in design, too functional or too monotone and regarded as negative “man-made elements”.
   3. The findings provide a large variety of visual design principles and characteristics, enabling to both enhance road design and assess the visual qualities of a road project.

***Task 3: The following excerpt from the text in Task 4 describes the steps of identifying studies relevant to the health impacts of liquid biofuel production and use. Likewise, recount your steps to search for 3-5 research articles in the research filed of your interest, as required in the task of WK05 DICUSSION.***

I searched Springer Link in the field of Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence to identify studies directly relating to the applications of Hashing Algorithms in image retrieval. Search terms are displayed as followed. All titles and abstracts from the database were searched in order to minimize the likelihood of omitting a relevant paper. Relevant articles were retained and according the Abstract/Introduction section, I selected papers with the strongest relevance to the field.

Hashing

AND

Image Retrieval OR Similarity Search OR

Limits: English



