**Literature review for your Research**

* **What is literature review in research?**

**A literature review is a comprehensive summary of previous research on a topic. The review should specify, describe, summarize, objectively evaluate, and clarify previous research.**

* **What does a literature review look like?**

**A literature review discusses published information in a particular subject area, and sometimes information in a particular subject area within a certain time period. A literature review can be just a simple summary of the sources, but it usually has an organizational pattern and combines both summary and synthesis.**

* **How do you start a literature review?**

**Convey to your reader what knowledge and ideas have been established on a topic. Next, narrow the focus: Discuss literature that aligns with the specific focus of your paper.**

* **What a literature review should contain?**

**A literature review surveys books, scholarly articles, and any other sources relevant to a particular issue, area of research, or theory, and by so doing, provides a description, summary, and critical evaluation of these works in relation to the research problem being investigated.**

* **How do you write literature review?**

**There are five key steps:**

1. **Search for relevant (Appropriate) literature.**
2. **Evaluate (Estimate) sources.**
3. **Identify themes (Subjects), debates (Discussions), and gaps in research.**
4. **Outline (Sketch/Plan) the structure.**
5. **Write your literature review.**

**Abstract**

* **What is Abstract?**

**An abstract summarizes, usually in one paragraph of 200 to 250 words or less, the major aspects of the entire paper in a prescribed sequence that includes: 1) the overall purpose of the study and the research problem(s) you investigated 2) the basic design of the study 3) major findings or trends found as a result of your research.**

* **How do you start an abstract?**

**The abstract should begin with a brief but precise statement of the problem or issue, followed by a description of the research method and design, the major findings, and the conclusions reached.** **Your abstract should be a single paragraph.**

* **What is a good abstract? Example of Abstract**

**Virtual learning environments (VLEs) are widely used in education, in many sectors, typically to deliver instructional materials and facilitate communication. This report is on an online survey into VLE use by 248 second year students at an English Sixth Form College (SFC). The survey investigated the reported impact of using the college’s VLE (Moodle) on learning and was based on three research questions which investigated: whether the use of a VLE has a positive impact on student learning; whether the use of a VLE in teaching and learning helps develop independent learning; and whether the use of a VLE increases students’ motivation to learn. The statistically significant findings report that the use of Moodle produces improvement in learning and motivation to learn as reported by the student participants. The findings will be of broad interest to teachers as they indicate areas for attention in promoting VLE use to enhance learning.**

* **What is the main purpose of an abstract?**

**The main purpose of an abstract is to help readers to evaluate and select a document that they would find useful in their own research**