Title – when, where, results / detail

Abstract

* Brief overview of background
* Purpose
* Major trends/values (results -> one para)
* Future directions

Introduction

* Background info w/ numbers, contextualize, Define some particulars (1)
* Literature Review – past studies (2)
* Objective/Purpose (3)
* Dos: define terms, introduce contextual info, cite references, state purpose
* Don’ts: repeat, mention results/methods/conclusion, introduce random info.

Materials and Methods

* Include figures and flowcharts
* Sufficient detail for replication
* Brief and concise
* Technique and Equipment
* Tools and Version number
* Don’ts: Describe common established techniques, state obvious ideas, use first person

Results (recommended to start with)

* Include main trends
* Mention key values
* Include appropriate si units (if unitless – note)
* Refer to figure/tables, use a caption
* Don’ts: comment on every point/value, interpret what data means or why results are way they are, comment on method, use the term **significant**

Discussion

* Discuss significance of results, refer to intro, refer to prev lit
* Do not discuss every data value, restate intro/results

Abstract in past tense

Introduction in present tense

Method past tense (passive)

Results, past tense, graphs in present tense

Discussion: past tense to summarize results, present tense to interpret

Conclusion: all tenses