

**The title goes here (only the first word has an initial capital) set in the font source sans pro bold 16 point, centered, with line spacing at exactly 18 point. It may span several lines if necessary**

Andrea N. Other  
William J. Kramer  
University of Nowhere, USA

Jason Pierce  
University of Rugby, UK

**Abstract:** The simplest way to achieve correct formatting is simply to modify this template but copying and pasting your article into it. However, we give details here for authors who wish to format an existing document manually (including using software other than Word or  $\text{\LaTeX}$ ). The abstract and everything else on the title page (except the title itself) is set in Source Serif Pro regular 10 point, with line spacing exactly 12 point (unlike the main text, which is the same typeface, but 12 point, with line spacing exactly 14 point). The abstract text should be justified at both the left and right edges (this is identical to the body text; there is no additional indentation applied to the abstract). The document should be set to a page size of A4. The entire document should be set up with margins of 4cm at the bottom, 2.5cm at the top, 2.5cm on the left and 2.5cm on the right, with no gutter (0cm). In Word, these settings are accessed via Format > Document > Margins. The header and footer should both be set to 1.50cm (in Word, double click inside the header and enter “1.5cm” in the “Header from Top” and “Header from Bottom” boxes). The abstract should be a maximum of 250 words. After the Abstract, Keywords and License information, the main text should begin on a new page with the heading “Introduction” (or other heading as appropriate). Author notes, acknowledgements etc. should be placed at the end of the paper, after the References but before any Appendices, rather than on the first page. Please avoid changing the orientation of the page as this creates section breaks, which can cause problems regarding the header, footer and page numbers.

**Keywords:** keywords go here; use 3-5 keywords; semicolons in between; same font as abstract; authors designate their own keywords rather than choosing from a menu.

**Corresponding author:** Jason Pierce, Department of Psychology, University of Rugby, Spaceman Park, Rugby, CV21 1XX, UK. Email: Jason.Pierce@Rugby.ac.uk.

**ORCID ID:** <https://orcid.org/0000-1234-5678-9999>

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**Introduction (Top [Level 1] Headings Use Centered, Bold, Title Case Heading)**

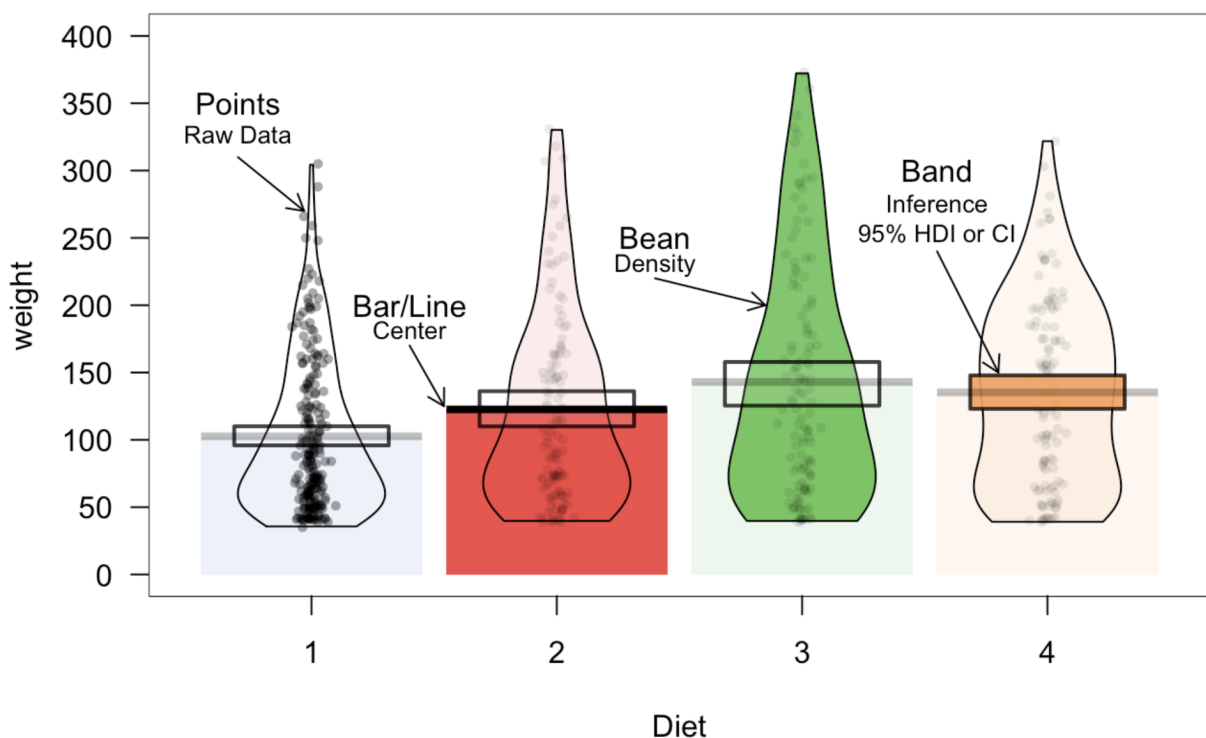
The Introduction should start on a new page. As a fully Open Access journal with no subscription fees or article processing charges, Language Development Research does not employ copyeditors or typesetters: Authors of accepted manuscripts are required to undertake their own copyediting and supply the final typeset and formatted article (i.e., the final author-supplied PDF is what journal readers will download). The guidelines set out here have been designed to yield a finished article that has a distinctive look and feel, and can be achieved relatively easily with any of the packages that are commonly used by academic authors. Word users should not have to edit any of these settings manually. Rather use the “Styles” pane on the “Home” tab to assign pre-defined styles to portions of you text (e.g., “LDR Article Main Title” to your title; “Normal, LDR Normal, Body, Abstract” to your body text; “Heading 1, LDR Heading 1” to Level 1 headings etc.). Ticking the “Show styles guides” box allows you to see at a glance the styles assigned to each portion of text.

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Please do not insert two spaces after a period. This (now outdated) convention was only ever meant to apply to draft manuscripts, not typeset, published documents (which is what Language Development Research requires authors to create upon acceptance).

### Study 1 (Top [Level 1] Headings Use Centered, Bold, Title Case Heading)

After top level (Level 1) headings, the text begins with a new paragraph. In general, the APA 7th edition guidelines for levels of heading should be used (<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/paper-format/headings>). The only exceptions are (1) the Abstract and Keywords sections which are always set in bold, flush left, initial capitals, followed by a colon, as shown above and (2) the Introduction, which DOES have its own (top level) heading. Note that (unlike in previous APA formats), all headings have Title Case Heading – i.e., the initial letter of all major words are in upper case (short [i.e., three letters or fewer] conjunctions, short prepositions, and all articles are considered minor words). Headings should not be numbered or lettered.



**Figure 1. The four elements of a pirate plot (reproduced from Phillips, 2018)**

Figures and tables should be inserted directly into the main body of the manuscript, not on separate pages at the end, and should be referred to in the text (see Figure 1). Word users may wish to use the Officer R package which enables figures and tables created in R to be directly inserted into Word documents. Both figures and tables, as well as their captions, should use the default font (Source Serif Pro 12pt) as much as possible: The majority of packages used for creating figures and tables allow custom fonts to be used. However, when this is not the case, other fonts are permitted. Other font sizes may be used if this is required for clarity, or in order for the figure/table to fit within the margins of the document. Captions should be left justified (rather than left and right

justified) in order to avoid excessive white space in between words. Authors should use the “Alt-text” feature of their chosen software (In Word, right click and choose “Edit Alt Text...”) to provide a text description of the figure (since the journal hosting is publicly funded, this constitutes a legal accessibility requirement).

Figures/tables should be formatted to span the same width as the body text (see Figure 1 and Table 1); they should not be narrower unless this is unavoidable for legibility reasons and must never extend into the margins of the document. Very large figures/tables may be rotated 90 degrees (counter-clockwise) and placed on a separate page (though still in the main body of the manuscript, not at the end).

Figure captions should be placed below the relevant figure and formatted as per the example above; i.e., “Figure X” in bold, and the caption in bold italics. For Word users, one way to keep the figure and its caption together is to insert a table with a single column and two rows, placing the figure in the top row and the caption in the row below it (ensuring the table borders are white, and so invisible).

**Table 1. Mean scores (and standard deviations) for adults and children in the Experimental and Control groups**

Age Group	Training Group	Mean	SD
Children	Experimental Group	55.81	23.05
	Control Group	35.25	22.28
Adults	Experimental Group	67.45	15.84
	Control Group	40.41	15.04

Figures illustrating data should show not just means for each group, but some clearly labelled measure of distribution (e.g., 95 confidence/credibility intervals) and, ideally, the raw data (e.g., the R PiratePlot package, which was used to create Figure 1).

Table captions should be placed above the relevant table and formatted as per the example below; i.e., “Table X” in bold, and the title in bold italics. As for figures, Word users can ensure that the caption moves with the table by including the caption as a row in the table itself (using “merge cells” if necessary). Tables should, in general, follow APA 7th Edition formatting guidelines (e.g., horizontal lines only, no shading, minimal use of bold/italics for column headings), though clarity should always be the overriding concern.

### **Method: Level 2 Headings Use Flush Left, Bold, Title Case Heading**

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***Participants: Level 3 Headings Use Flush Left, Bold Italic, Title Case Heading***

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***Children: Level 4 Headings Use Indented, Bold, Title Case, Ending with a Period..***

After Level 4 headings, the text begins on the same line and continues as a regular paragraph.

***Experimental Group: Level 5 Headings Use Indented, Bold Italic, Title Case, Ending with a Period.*** After Level 5 headings, the text begins on the same line and continues as a regular paragraph.

***Control Group.*** After Level 5 headings, the text begins on the same line and continues as a regular paragraph.

***Design and Procedure (Level 3 Heading)***

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***Results (Level 2 Heading)***

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***Discussion (Level 2 Heading)***

***Study 2 (Level 1 Heading)***

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## **General Discussion (Level 1 Heading)**

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In order to proceed to peer review, submitted articles must include a “Data, code and materials availability statement” which includes links to permanent repositories (with Digital Object Identifiers [DOIs] wherever possible) and details of any exemptions agreed. Authors applying for an exemption should submit their article in the usual way, setting out the reason for their application in the “Comments to Editor” box. Exemptions are granted by the Editor, but for complex cases, the Editor may first discuss the proposed exemption with the Editorial Board. Generally, exemptions to data/code/materials sharing will be granted only where it is impossible or infeasible (e.g., prohibitively expensive) due to insurmountable concerns regarding participant confidentiality or restrictions imposed by an ethics committee, institutional review board, funder, or local rules, regulations or laws

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should share the transcriptions, and the coded data (unless relevant exemptions have been granted), but not the actual recordings (unless they have explicit permission from the participants to do so). In normal circumstances, data aggregated at the participant or item level, rather than individual participant-by-participant and trial-by-trial data, would not meet the journal's requirements.

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### **Ethics statement (Level 1 Heading) – Mandatory for Empirical Articles**

Ethics approval was obtained from the ethics committee of the University of Nowhere. All participants gave informed written consent before taking part in the study.

### **Authorship and Contributorship Statement**

ANO conceived of the study, designed the study and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. WJK contributed to the design of the study, collected the data, and revised the manuscript. JP analysed the data and revised the manuscript. All authors approved the final version of the manuscript and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved. For guidance, please see <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>.

### **Declaration of conflict of interests**

A declaration of conflict of interests section is mandatory only if a conflict of interest exists. This section should be deleted if no conflict of interests exists.

### **Acknowledgements, author notes etc. (Level 1 Heading)**

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### **Appendices etc. (Level 1 Heading)**

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