

And what is a problem statement?

A "Problem Statement" is a description of a difficulty or lack that needs to be solved or at least researched to see whether a solution can be found.

It can also be described as either a gap between the real and the desired or a contradiction between principle and practice.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF A STATEMENT OF PROBLEM?

The ultimate goal of a problem statement is to transform a generalized problem (something that bothers you; a perceived lack) into a targeted, well-defined problem one that can be resolved through focused research and careful decision-making.

What are the key characteristics of a statement of problem?

A good research problem should at minimum address a gap

Gap between the poor and the rich

Generation gap

e.t.c

WHAT IS THE FORMAT (PARTS OF A PROBLEM STATEMENT)?

Part A: The ideal

Describes a desired goal or ideal situation; explains how things should be.

Part B: The reality

Describes a condition that prevents the goal, state, or value in Part A from being achieved or realized at this time; explains how the current situation falls short of the goal or ideal.

Part C: The consequences

Identifies the way you propose to improve the current situation and move it closer to the goal or ideal.

The ideal

Everybody should live in a decent house



The reality

Many people live in thatched leaking houses



The consequences many people are sickly hence need to know how to improve their living standards

HERE ARE YOUR SIMPLE THREE STEPS TO WRITE A STATEMENT PROBLEM

Step 1 (statement 1)

Construct statement 1 by describing a goal or desired state of a given situation, phenomenon etc. This will build the ideal situation (what should be, what is expected, desired)

E.g, Our goal is to industrialize by 2030

HERE ARE YOUR SIMPLE THREE STEPS TO WRITE A STATEMENT PROBLEM

Step 2 (statement 2)

Describe a condition that prevents the goal, state, or value discussed in step 1 from being achieved or realized at the present time. This will build the reality, the situation as it is and establish a gap between what ought to be and what is

E.g, Agricultural policies do not support modern commercial agriculture. And our agriculture is neglected

HERE ARE YOUR SIMPLE THREE STEPS TO WRITE A STATEMENT PROBLEM

Step 3 (statement 3)

State the possible consequences should the situation not improve.

E.g. favourable policies for agriculture must be identified if our industries must get inputs to and propel the country. to 2030 goal.

The government of Kenya is promoting SMEs as a means of achieving her vision 2030 goal.

However despite all the efforts there is slow SME growth. If this persists the vision 2030 goal may not be achieved.

Need arises to study factors hindering the fast growth of SMEs.

What is an Abstract?

- * The word abstract comes from the Latin *abstractum*, which means a condensed form of a longer piece of writing.
- * It is a **brief summary** of the proposal, approximately 200 words, written in one continuous paragraph.



Why is an Abstract Important?

- The abstract forms the reader's **initial impression** of the work, and therefore plays a big role on whether the research project is approved or not.



What are the Types of Abstract?

There are two main types of abstract:

- **Descriptive** abstract
- **Informative** abstract

The type of abstract you write depends on your discipline area.



What is a Descriptive Abstract?

- * A descriptive abstract **describes** the major points of the project to the reader.
- * It is generally used in **humanities and social science**.
- * It includes the **background, aim or purpose, and focus** of the project, but never the methods, results and conclusions.



What is an Informative Abstract?

- * An informative abstract **informs** all essential points of the project to the reader.
- * It is generally used in **science, engineering and information technology**.
- * It includes the **background, aim or purpose, methods used and expected outcome** of the project.
- * **Conclusion** is included in the abstract only after the project has been completed, but not in the research proposal.



What are the Elements of an Abstract in UniKL MIIT FYP Research Proposal?

As the discipline in MIIT is **Information Technology**, the abstract for the research proposal must include:

- * **the background of the research**
- * **aim or purpose**
- * **methods used**
- * **the expected outcome**
- * ~~conclusion (to be included in the thesis)~~



1: The Background of the Research

One important topic in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) syllabus for Chemistry is Salt. Salt is an ionic compound that results from the neutralization reaction of an acid and a base. ← **Introduces the domain area**

In order for students to understand the Salt topic, they need to memorise preparation of salts and its properties. However, many students find the topic to be difficult because of numerous different combinations of acid and base. ← **States the problem**

