



# Writing the Abstract

# Typical expressions used in abstracts

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## □ A. Structures to describe the background information:

- While language aptitude has been investigated actively within second language research, there is a current dearth of research on the effects of aptitude in cases of attrition.
- The role of awareness or consciousness in learning has been a relative contentious issue in non-SLA fields (e.g., cognitive psychology).
- Although the emergence of creoles presupposes naturalistic SLA, current SLA scholarship does not shed much light on the development of creoles with regard to the population-internal mechanisms.

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## □ B. Structures used to indicate the purpose:

- The main purpose of the study was to investigate ...
- The aim of the present investigation was to explore the role of ...
- In order to better understand ..., the current study examined the use of ....
- This study investigated ...
- This study reported on ...

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## □ C. Structures used to report the method(s):

- ... participated in the study, ... were recruited as controls.
- ... was measured based on ...
- This study used a(n) ... approach to explore the role of ... in ...
- This article explored ...
- Each participating student was interviewed to ...
- ... were also implemented to probe ....

Passive voice and past tense is preferred!

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## □ D. Structures to present the findings/results:

- It was also shown that ...
- Results showed that ...
- Though the quantitative analysis may lead one to conclude that ..., the qualitative analysis revealed that ...
- There were statistically significant differences between ...
- The quantitative analyses performed on the data of ... revealed that ...

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## □ E. Structures to state the conclusions:

- In view of these findings, we suggest that ...
- The study indicates ...
- This study thus provides empirical evidence that ...
- Implications of these findings for ...
- This finding suggests a need for more thorough consideration of ....
- The results suggest that ....

# Suggestions

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- ☐ Write your abstract after your paper is done.
- ☐ Meet the length requirement.
- ☐ Avoid citations, tables and graphs in your abstract.