

Guidelines and procedures for writing research papers (dissertations)

Dara Karim Mahmood

MA-TESOL

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Today

1. Research Paper Outline
2. APA 6th Style of Referencing
3. Academic Writing Skills (Hedging Language)
4. www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk

1. Research Paper Outline

Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION (10%)

1000 words

Chapter 2: LITERATURE REVIEW (30%)

3000 words

Chapter 3: DISCUSSION/ ANALYSIS (45%)

4500 words

Chapter 4: CONCLUSIONS (15%)

1500 words

10,000 words in total

Note:

- Please note the use of the writing frame ensures that all elements required towards a successful dissertation are included. This is only a suggested writing frame and is in no way meant to suppress your creativity in structuring your study. However, please do check any proposed structure with your dissertation supervisor.

Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

- In this chapter, you are required to give an introduction of your dissertation by stating:
 1. **The problem** you are dealing with (the gap).
 2. **The aims** (questions) of the study that is used as the framework for all chapters.
 3. **The scope or context of the study** that should deal with your study context and limits.
 4. **Research Procedure (Research Methodology):**
Here, you should be talking about your methods and techniques of data collection.

Referencing matters and please avoid plagiarism.

Chapter 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

- The main purpose of the literature review is to analyse what others have written about the subject, thus providing an indication of the originality of your own research.
- Here, you have to use sources but please do not rely too heavily on one or two sources. Instead, try to have diversity in dealing with others' writings and perspectives.
- Referencing matters, and please avoid plagiarism as it'll have serious consequences.

Chapter 3: DISCUSSION/ ANALYSIS

- Present your findings in a logical, coherent fashion.
- Structure your findings according to your aims, your theoretical framework and/or key themes that emerge.
- Try to use hedging language as it looks more academic (See the separate hedging handout).

Chapter 4: CONCLUSIONS

- Revisit each of the **aims** of the research study and summarise the findings in relation to each aim.
- Describe what you have learned from undertaking the research and how this might have helped your own (and others') **professional development**.
- Give details of the **dissemination** strategies you intend to use to reach as appropriate an audience as possible.

Dissertation Handbook

- Further details can be found in the dissertation handbook.
- For example; dissertation design.
- **www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk**



**KEEP
CALM
AND
FINISH YOUR
DISSERTATION**