How to Write an A+ Paper

Dr Amer N. Abu-Ali Hafidh .Z. Jamil Associate Professor- Philadelphia University-Jordan, M.Sc. AABFS-Jordan aabuali@philadelphia.edu.jo hafidhj@wanadoo.jo

Abstract

Writing a paper is a skill that man can learn. Many papers are written badly because of lack on knowing how to write. In this paper, we looked after a strategy on how to write an A+ paper; Although there is neither a certain style nor a straight way on writing, we tried to give an over view on how to do it in a simple, scientific, and logical way.

Citing other studies on papers and web sites concerning this subject to reach a pleasant way on writing a paper for different marketplaces; thesis, paper, scientific report, etc.

1. Introduction

Many papers are written badly, because of lack in knowing how to write; writing a paper is a skill that you can learn. The aim of writing a paper is to infect the reader mind with the idea like a virus; greatest ideas are (literally) worthless if you keep them to yourself.

Scientists frequently communicate the results of their work in research reports. They tell others what study they performed, why they did it, what they discovered, and what it means.

The following text includes some advice on how to write a paper. No single formula exists for how to do this, but a number of features generally expected to be present in all paper works.

2. Material and Methods

2.1. The Design

Like anything on earth, writing a paper needs a design. There are some steps should be performed before starting writing the paper shown on figure (Figure 1.).

2.2. Market Need

The reader is your market. Who will read the paper? What for the paper is written? How will the reader use it? All these questions need answers before you start.

2.2.1. Theses. The readers are your examiners, they expect details of all the parts of the project, every

single small or big ones, and they do not want irrelevant ones, like how standard equipment works! Find out as much as you can about content and format from your supervisor and other students, and look at some recent (successful) theses to get a feel for the product this market expects.

- **2.2.2. Paper**. A paper is read by one or more skilled referees, and, if accepted, by a scientifically-informed audience.
- **2.2.3. Research Proposal**. A research proposal usually addresses two markets. One is the funding agency, another Government Agencies, or a Charity. They will look for a match between their priorities and yours. The other is the referees that the funding agency will use; they are charged with judging quality, promise Regardless of the specific discipline involved, and relevance.
- **2.2.4. Popular Articles**. Hardest to write is a popular article, addressing an audience who is intelligent, one should always assume that, but who may know nothing of your subject. Here style, always important, must be fine-tuned to meet their needs.

2.3. Concept

Making a concept sheet is like a child play (Figure3), but it is very useful way. To start writing get yourself a cup of coffee maybe tea, a A3 or A4 Sheet, and a bunch of color pens and markers, sit in relax; the most important part, focus. Start by the title, devise a tentative title for the paper and write it at the top. Then in as orderly way as you can, write down what seems like sensible section titles on rectangular shapes and any thing that related to it came in mind, figures, tables, paragraph headings, etc.

Think of things that related to the paragraph, a figure here, a table there an index supporting this, and so on. Put each in a circle near the rectangular related to it with an arrow showing where it fits best, forget the detail and think both longitudinally and laterally. You realize you need a section here, squeeze it in. you think you need to change the order of paragraphs? Number them in another way.

The value of concept sheet is the freedom of thoughts it permits. The first real act of composition is to allow thoughts to spread all over the sheet, exploring ways in which the pieces might fit together, recording the resources you will need and capturing ideas. That way, no matter which way you start first; do not think of styles, spelling etc. you will have your thoughts all over the paper. This can be the most satisfying part of writing a paper. Later work can take time, and be the hard work.

2.4. Embodiment – The first draft

The hard work just began, papers are not drafted sequentially; do it in any way you wish. All papers follow a general format:

- **2.4.1. Title.** Title allows the reader to establish the nature of the paper and decide if they wish to read it. It should be as informative as possible and yet not too long. Some times subtitle is useful too. Title page should include Paper Title, Author School, and Date.
- **2.4.2. Abstract.** It is best to write your abstract AFTER completing a draft of your paper. The abstract should be as informative as possible and yet not too long. The abstract should be self-contained; it should provide a high-level description of the contents of the paper. Bear in mind that, some people would only read the abstract.
- **2.4.3. Acknowledgement.** You should acknowledge the assistance of those who helped with your study: teachers, scientists, typists, etc. keep this section brief, but be sure to identify major contributions.
- **2.4.4. Introduction.** It is what motivates the audience to read a paper and the first sentence is particularly important. Important conclusions and natural open problems that arise from the current work may also be stated. It should do the following; open up the subject, survey past work, describe the problem and assumptions. Important conclusions and natural open problems that arise from the current work may also be stated in the introduction. Stating these elements in the introduction is preferable to stating them in a conclusion section, unless these are significantly easier to understand after reading the main part of the paper.
- 2.4.5. Methods and Materials. This is the content of the research; it should be an easy section to write; just say what you did in brief. Build up a reference list as you go. This section should be written in narrative paragraph format. If the work is based on a questionnaire or survey, include the blank questionnaire/survey as part of the Methods section. If the method is complex, it may be worth considering the use of a figure or flow diagram to clarify the situation; Appendices may be used if necessary. Do not mix Method with Results or Discussion, they come next. It is also important to

avoid confusing the reader by having the same thing called by several different names.

- **2.4.6. Discussion.** It aims to summarize your work, describe the ideas and theories and put it into perspective, leading the reader through a comparison of these with the experimental or computational data, Sometimes the results speak for themselves.
- **2.4.7. Conclusion.** The essential aspect of it is that your research question must be answered. It is useful to present these as bullet points as this provides maximum impact. Many readers will read only the Introduction and Conclusion of your paper. The Conclusion should be written so someone who has not read the main work of the paper can understand them.
- **2.4.8. Literature Cited.** When you refer to the work of another scientist, you must indicate the source of that information. That way, someone reading your paper will realize that the information comes from another project. Failure to do, results in a serious fault (plagiarism) that is similar to stealing and is severely frowned upon.

There are two main types of reference system:

- Vancouver system: this system uses superscript numerals in the text and the references are in the order in which they appear in the text.
- Harvard system: this system uses the name of the first author and the date of the paper and the references are then in alphabetical order.

When using the web you must cite the exact (FULL) location on the server, and the date of downloading information. If you use internet-based information as a central part of your paper, be cautious to use reliable sources only, and make sure to keep prints of the important information for future reference. Table 1 examples of literature cited that should be helpful.

3. References

[1]Alaska J.S.H.S, Student and teacher handbook. 2002. How to Write Your Scientific

Paper.http://www.altavista.com/

web/results?itag=ody&q=how+to+write+a+pdf+paper&kg s=0&kls=0>. Accessed 21 November 2006.

[2]Ann-Christina, K. 7 Kirsten, G.. How-to-write-a-paper. Oct. 2006.www.iho.au.dk/cek/filer/pdf/

howtowriteapaper>. Accessed 11 November 2006.

[3]Ashby, Mike. How to Write a Paper, 6th edition. April 2005.http://www.grantadesign.com/download/pdf/How_towrite_a_paper_6th_edition_2005.pdf>. Accessed 11 November 2006.

[4]S. J. Cunningham. How to . . . write a paper. Journal of Orthodontics, Vol. 31, 2004, 47–51.http://www.philadelphia.edu.jo/pdf/r1.pdf>. Accessed 12 November 2006