

Writing A Research Article: Where to Start, Where to End?

Although the typical research article follows a standard order

2. Introduction
3. Materials and Methods
4. Results
5. Discussion
6. Table and Figure Legends

... it is not advisable that the manuscript be written in that order.

Below is our approach to the order by which article writing should occur. This approach can be different for many investigators, but has worked successfully for us.

Prior to writing the first sentence:

Step #1: Assemble your data into discreet figures and tables

Step #2: Decide on preliminary order of the figures and tables

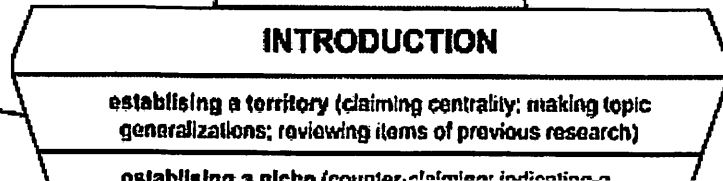
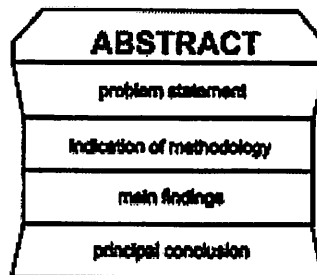
The above steps are necessary to know your results and to begin the process for ordering them into a logical storyline. Once that storyline is approximately set in your mind, then begin writing in this order:

1. Figure and Table Legend Titles:

- Idea here is to use a short sentence to describe the Biological conclusion of the figure or table.
- Figure legend titles that are purely technical do not help drive a narrative.
- Once figure legend titles that are biologically relevant have been written, they can be used as organizing bullets for the next section to write...

2. Abstract:

Typical Research Article Structure



In the past decade much research has focused on...

