Scientific Communication

Lecture III – Publication

Section [Length]	Purpose	Verb Tense	Elements
Abstract [200-250 words]	Mini-version of the paper	Simple-past – refers to work done	 Principal objectives Methods used Principal results Main Conclusions
Introduction [500-1,000 words] Literature Review [1,000-2,000 words]	Provides rationale for the study	Present – refers to established knowledge in the literature	Nature & scope of the problem Review of relevant literature Hypothesis Approach (and justification for this approach Principal results Main conclusions
Method & Materials [500-1,000 words] • Sampling • Data Collection • Measurement	Describes what was done – experiment, model, or field study	Simple past – refers to work done	Description of materials Description of procedure in logical order Sufficient detail so that procedure can be reproduced
Results [500-1,500 words] • Analysis	Presents the data, the facts – what you found, calculated, discovered, observed	Simple past – refers to what was found, observed	Your results Your observations during experiments/fieldwork Your observations about the results (e.g., compare/contrast between experiments) Results of calculations using the data, such as rates or error
Discussion [1,000-1,500 words] • Evaluation	Shows the relationships among the facts Puts results in context of previous research	Present – emphasis on established knowledge, present results	Trends, relationships, generalizations shown by the results Any exceptions, outlying data (and why) How your results agree disagree with previous studies, and why
Conclusions	Summarizes your principal findings	Present – emphasis on what should now be accepted as established knowledge	Conclusions should relate back to the introduction, the hypothesis Summary of evidence supporting each conclusion Implications, the significance of your results or any practical applications
Title [8-15 words]	Draws readers'		***