

Preparation of Scientific and Technical Papers



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SCIENTIFIC /
TECHNICAL PAPER

ABSTRACT

Scientific and technical papers have certain characteristics. Some characteristics are associated with the quality of the scientific or technical content while others are related to the quality of writing. The first part of this report presents these characteristics while the second part focuses on the structure and contents of papers in detail.

Part 1: Characteristics of Scientific and Technical Papers

The important characteristics of scientific and technical papers are originality, accuracy, conciseness, clarity, correctness, structure, comprehensiveness, consistency, and target readers.

1. Originality

Originality is the most important characteristic for publication of papers in scientific and technical journals. Editors and reviewers accept or reject a manuscript based on the presence or absence of its originality. The followings are acceptable definitions of originality [1]:

- Presenting a major piece of new research findings for the first time,
- Extending or elaborating on an existing piece of work,
- Developing a new product or improving an existing one,
- Reinterpreting an existing theory in a different context,
- Demonstrating originality by testing someone else's idea,
- Conducting empirical work that has not been done before,
- Examining the previous work from a new angle to produce new knowledge,
- Synthesising information in a new or different way to add to knowledge,
- Providing a new interpretation using existing /known information,
- Applying existing ideas/ a particular technique in a new area,
- Developing a new research tool or technique or algorithm,
- Conducting a study on a previously unresearched area or topic,
- Producing a critical analysis of something not previously examined.

Original work can be the outcome of basic or applied research. The purpose of basic research is to create new knowledge or understanding without considering the overall practical applicability whereas an applied research is concerned with practical applications of knowledge to solve problems.

The Office of Research Integrity, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [2], has defined research misconduct which means of fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Wikipedia has reported several cases of misconduct including 61 cases from biomedical sciences and 6-7 cases, each from chemistry, physics and social sciences [3].

2. Accuracy

Accuracy in technical writing refers to factual and correct information, free from bias or subjectivity. Researchers must be fair and honest in reporting facts without any distortion. The methods must be replicable to check the validity or verify results. It is important to always report the facts about a particular experiment, even if unexpected results were obtained. It is wrong and unethical to falsify information and data. An inaccurate writing does not command respect and confidence from the readers.

3. Structure

The basic structure of scientific papers is presented in Part-2 of this report.

4. Comprehensiveness

A comprehensive paper explores a topic thoroughly and presents the details in a proper structure so that the paper is complete and informative.

5. Clarity

The paper must be clear and straightforward so that it is easier for the target readers to understand. The author needs to adhere to the subject matter and to convey facts in clear terms. The following suggestions can improve clarity while writing and editing the manuscripts [4]:

Scientific Technical Papers

**Great Britain. Parliament. House of
Commons**



Scientific Technical Papers:

Advanced Abstracts of Scientific and Technical Papers Submitted for Publication and Presentation United States. Army Medical Research and Development Command, 1970 **NASA Scientific and Technical Publications** ,1991
Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports ,1995 *Serials Currently Received by the National Agricultural Library, a Keyword Index* National Agricultural Library (U.S.),1974 Annual Report of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Australia),1927 Index of NLM Serial Titles National Library of Medicine (U.S.),1979 A keyword listing of serial titles currently received by the National Library of Medicine **Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications** United States. Superintendent of Documents,1985 **Report of Proceedings of the ... Conference ...** Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (Great Britain). Conference,1928 **The English Catalogue of Books** Sampson Low,1926 Volumes for 1898 1968 include a directory of publishers *Technical Paper* ,1965 **Monthly Catalogue, United States Public Documents** ,1978 Parliamentary Papers Great Britain. Parliament. House of Commons,1903 NASA Issuances United States. National Aeronautics and Space Administration,1974 Master list and index to NASA issuances United States. National Aeronautics and Space Administration,1976 *NHB.* ,1976 NASA Scientific and Technical Publications United States. National Aeronautics and Space Administration,1989 **Book Catalog of the Library and Information Services Division: Author-title-series indexes** Environmental Science Information Center. Library and Information Services Division,1977 **Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office** ,2008 **Abstracts of Scientific and Technical Publications from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology** Massachusetts Institute of Technology,1929 *Structure and Agent in the Scientific Diplomacy of Climate Change* T. Skodvin,2006-01-10 Research input constitutes a key component in the development of international environmental regime formation Science policy interaction is however complex and difficult particularly because it is an encounter between two distinct systems of behaviour the scientific ideal of impartiality and disinterestedness and the political reality of interest realisation and strategic behaviour This study analyses the extent to which and how the institutional framework within which the science policy dialogue takes place through conscious design can be utilised as an instrument to handle obstacles and barriers immanent of science policy interaction and thereby serve as an instrument to enhance the effectiveness of the dialogue Also the impact of actor behaviour particularly behaviour taking the form of leadership performance is investigated This book provides a detailed and in depth empirical study of science policy interaction in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC from its establishment in 1988 to the provision of the Second IPCC Assessment Report in 1995 The main focus of the empirical investigation is on Working Group I of the IPCC

Whispering the Secrets of Language: An Mental Quest through **Scientific Technical Papers**

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Scientific Technical Papers Introduction

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