

General shape of paper

- Think of your paper like an hourglass - the beginning is very very broad - saying something about people in general, or the way the world works.
- Then you narrow down gradually throughout the intro, getting closer and closer to the actual topic. The methods is the most narrow, part, and then it broadens out in the results & discussion.

Discussion

- Your discussion should start narrow - reiterate the basic findings.
- Then discuss each of them in turn; what they mean, their implications, etc.
- Then talk about global implications - usually, you raised a number of questions/issues in the intro, and you need to go back to EACH ONE OF THEM and say how the current results relate to them.

End of discussion

- At the end of your discussion you're free to go beyond the paper and talk about possible implications, as well as further questions.
- This is where you generally talk about future research.
- End with a 1-paragraph summary.

Little things

- “Subjects” is not politically correct
 - They are participants, listeners, adults, children, but not subjects
- “Et al.” stands for et alia; so it is “et al.” not “et. al”
- “Data” is a plural term; thus, “the data are” not “the data is”
- A single sentence cannot be an entire paragraph.
- “Due to this result...”
 - Due refers to time. Trains, library books, & bills are due. If you mean “because”, say so.
 - List all authors the first time you mention them.

References

- Use APA style
 - All authors in text the first time, unless > 6
 - All authors in references, regardless (even if there are 10 authors, don’t do an et al. in the references)
 - Alphabetical order
 - If more than one article by same authors in the same year, the first gets an “a” after the date, the 2nd gets a “b”, so that when referenced in the text its clear which is being referenced
 - Be consistent in how you refer to journals (don’t use “JSLHR” one time, “Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research” another time)
