





# WRITING CAPTIVATING DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

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### WHAT IS RESEARCH DISCUSSION?







- Research discussion is a critical component of a research paper, thesis, or dissertation where the researcher interprets and explains the findings of the study in relation to the research objectives, questions, and existing literature. It connects results to broader implications and provides insights for further studies.
- Research discussion is a crucial section in academic writing that provides an in-depth analysis of the study's findings. It goes beyond presenting results by exploring their meaning, relevance, and implications in the context of the research field. This section bridges the gap between raw data and broader understanding, allowing the researcher to explain how the findings answer research questions, validate or challenge existing theories, and contribute to knowledge advancement.

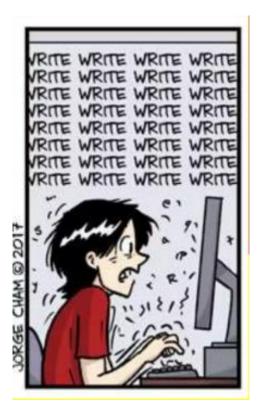
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#### **Informal Writing:**

- •Because you won't **remember** everything, forever
  - Sometimes writing will help you remember
- •Training getting yourself familiar with writing
- Developing a good habit
- Motivate yourself to keep going



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### **Formal Writing:**

- Data without notes are unusable
  - Because you won't remember everything, forever
- •For others who may need to understand your research
  - Science includes the dissemination of knowledge
    - To communicate to the community
    - To contribute to the advancement of knowledge

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# **ALERT:**

Most of your writings will never be used!
So be it.

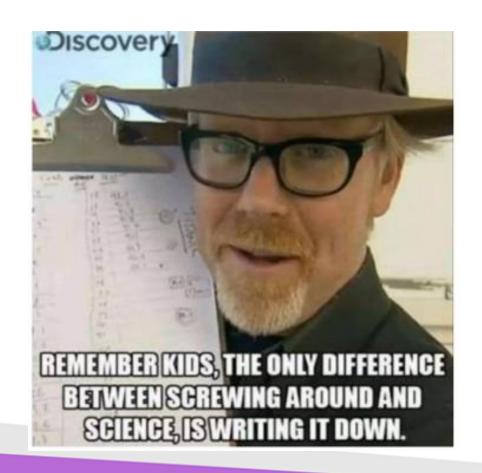
Remember, it's a journey, not a destination.







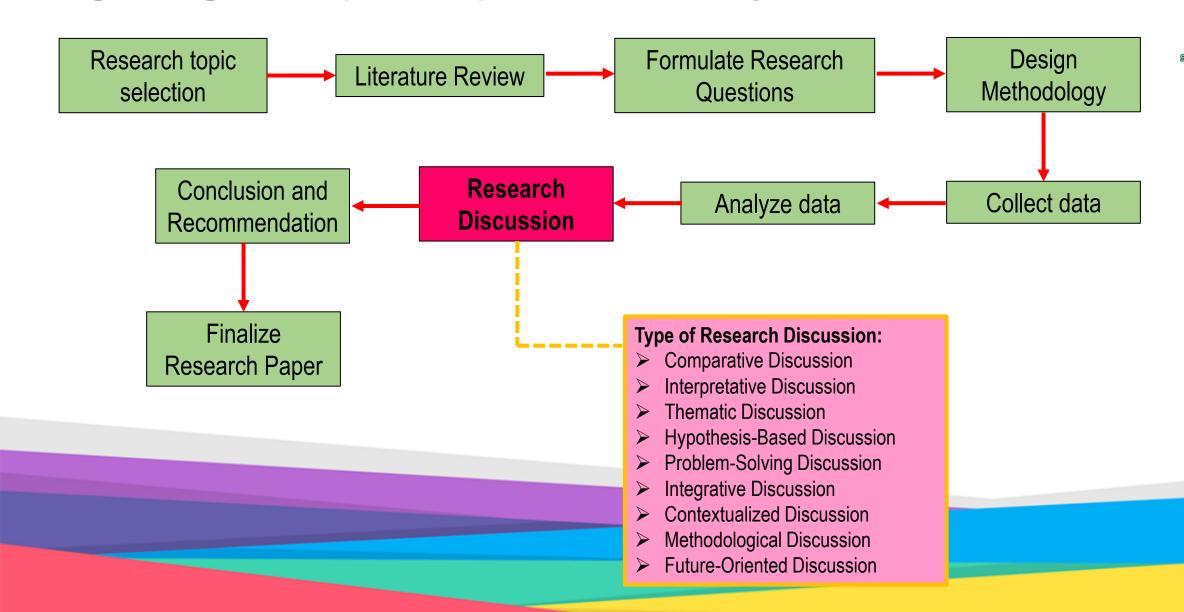




Adam Savage, the co-host of the popular TV show "MythBusters." He is known for his work in science communication and making complex topics accessible through experiments. This quote humorously aligns with his approach to demonstrating the importance of documentation in scientific exploration.

### FLOW OF RESEARCH WRITING?





# **Comparative Discussion**







→ A comparative discussion evaluates the study's findings against previous research or established theories.
This helps validate, challenge, or expand the knowledge base in the field.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- When the research builds on existing literature or theoretical frameworks.
- To highlight consistencies or contradictions with past studies.
- To situate findings within a broader research context.

- Strengthens Credibility: Links findings to established knowledge, showcasing thorough research.
- Highlights Originality: Identifies gaps or innovations compared to previous work.
- Encourages Critical Analysis: Explores agreements and differences in a balanced manner.

# Interpretative Discussion







An interpretative discussion focuses on explaining the significance and meaning of the research findings. It involves delving into the "why" and "how" behind the results, often exploring patterns, relationships, or unexpected outcomes.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- In studies that uncover complex phenomena requiring deeper analysis.
- When explaining findings from qualitative or exploratory research.
- To provide theoretical insights or practical implications.

- Adds Depth: Goes beyond merely stating results to explore their broader implications.
- Provides Insight: Links findings to real-world applications or theoretical frameworks.
- Encourages Critical Thinking: Helps identify underlying causes, patterns, or contradictions.

# **Thematic Discussion**







A thematic discussion organizes the analysis and interpretation of findings around key themes, categories, or research questions identified during the study. It is particularly useful for presenting complex data in a structured manner.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- In qualitative research where data is categorized into themes.
- When addressing multiple research objectives or questions.
- To make large volumes of data more digestible.

- Organized Structure: Breaks down findings into manageable sections.
- Enhanced Clarity: Helps readers follow the analysis easily by focusing on specific themes.
- Facilitates Comprehensive Analysis: Ensures that all aspects of the research are addressed systematically.

# **Hypothesis-Based Discussion**







A hypothesis-based discussion revolves around evaluating the research findings in relation to the hypotheses set at the beginning of the study. It focuses on confirming, rejecting, or modifying the hypotheses and explaining the reasons for the outcomes.

#### When to Use:

- In experimental or quantitative research where specific hypotheses are tested.
- To assess the validity of a proposed relationship or assumption.
- In studies designed to confirm or refute established theories or predictions.

#### **Benefits:**

- Clear Focus: Provides a structured framework for analyzing results.
- Validates Research: Shows whether the hypotheses were supported and to what extent.
- Scientific Rigor: Strengthens the study's credibility through systematic hypothesis evaluation.

# **Problem-Solving Discussion**







A problem-solving discussion centers on how the research findings address or contribute to resolving a specific problem or challenge. It highlights practical applications and the real-world relevance of the study.

- ☐ When to Use:
  - In applied research focused on addressing specific societal, industrial, or organizational issues.
  - When the study proposes new tools, methods, or solutions.
  - To showcase the practical significance of research outcomes.
- Benefits:
  - Practical Relevance: Directly connects research findings to real-world applications.
  - Addresses Research Objectives: Demonstrates how the study resolves the problem it set out to investigate.
  - Highlights Innovation: Focuses on the novelty and usefulness of the proposed solution.

# **Integrative Discussion**







An integrative discussion combines findings from the current research with insights from multiple disciplines, theories, or data sources. It provides a comprehensive understanding by exploring how the findings fit into a broader context or contribute to solving multifaceted problems.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- In interdisciplinary research where multiple fields contribute to the study.
- To explore complex issues requiring a holistic perspective.
- When synthesizing diverse data types (e.g., qualitative and quantitative) in mixed-method studies.

- Broader Perspective: Connects findings to multiple frameworks or fields of study.
- Comprehensive Analysis: Helps uncover deeper insights by integrating diverse viewpoints or data.
- Supports Innovation: Encourages creative thinking by linking ideas across disciplines.

## **Contextualized Discussion**







A contextualized discussion focuses on interpreting and explaining research findings within a specific context, such as cultural, social, economic, or environmental settings. It emphasizes how the results are influenced by, or relevant to, these contexts.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- When the study is tied to a particular setting or population.
- To explore how external factors (e.g., culture, geography, or policies) shape the findings.
- In research where the applicability of results depends on contextual factors.

- Real-World Relevance:Demonstrates how findings apply to specific contexts or populations.
- Enhances Understanding: Highlights how contextual factors influence outcomes, making findings more meaningful.
- Guides Policy or Practice:Provides insights that inform decisions tailored to the study's context.

# **Methodological Discussion**







A methodological discussion evaluates the research methods used in the study, focusing on how they influenced the findings and their reliability. It examines the strengths, limitations, and appropriateness of the chosen methodology while providing insights for improving future studies.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- In studies introducing new or innovative methodologies.
- When the research process significantly impacts the outcomes.
- To reflect on the effectiveness and limitations of the methods used.

- Enhances Credibility:Demonstrates transparency and critical analysis of the research process.
- Supports Validity:Shows how the chosen methods align with the research objectives.
- Improves Future Studies:Offers recommendations for refining methodologies in subsequent research.

# **Future-Oriented Discussion**







A future-oriented discussion focuses on how the research findings pave the way for future studies, applications, or innovations. It emphasizes the broader implications of the study, unresolved questions, and opportunities for further exploration or practical use.

#### ☐ When to Use:

- In exploratory or cutting-edge research.
- When findings reveal new questions, gaps, or potential applications.
- To inspire continued investigation or implementation in the field.

- Promotes Progress: Encourages the advancement of knowledge or practices based on the findings.
- Highlights Research Impact: Demonstrates the long-term value and relevance of the study.
- Inspires Collaboration: Opens avenues for interdisciplinary research or partnerships.

# Writing the Discussion Section in an Article Journal





The discussion section in an article journal interprets the findings, relates them to the research question, and situates them within the existing body of literature. It is concise yet comprehensive, focusing on the significance and implications of the results.



# Restate Key Findings

"This study found that the use of biodegradable polymers reduced environmental waste by 40%, aligning with global sustainability goals."

# Compare Findings with Previous Studies

"Our results are consistent with Smith et al. (2020), who also reported a significant reduction in waste. However, unlike their findings, our study demonstrated enhanced material durability."

#### Interpret the Results

"The increased durability observed in this study may be attributed to the polymer's enhanced cross-linking, which was not investigated in prior studies."

#### Suggest Future Research

"Future research should focus on testing these materials under diverse environmental conditions to ensure global applicability."

# Highlight Limitations

"One limitation of this study is the relatively small sample size, which may not capture the full variability in environmental conditions."

# Discuss Implications

"These findings suggest that biodegradable polymers can be scaled for industrial use, offering a viable solution to reduce plastic waste globally."

### **Writing the Discussion Section in a Thesis**



The discussion section in a thesis is more elaborate and comprehensive than in a journal article. It involves interpreting findings in detail, addressing their implications, and situating them within the broader academic context. The aim is to critically analyze the results, provide a thorough understanding, and demonstrate how they contribute to the field.





# Introduction to the Discussion

"This chapter discusses the findings of this study in relation to the research objectives and existing literature. It highlights the implications, limitations, and potential directions for future research."

#### Detailed Interpretation of Findings

"The significant improvement in student performance observed in this study can be attributed to the gamified learning approach, which aligns with the theory of intrinsic motivation."

# Comparison with Literature

"These results are consistent with previous research by Smith (2020), which found that interactive learning methods enhance student engagement. However, our findings further demonstrate sustained long-term benefits."

# Future Research Directions

"Future research should explore the long-term impact of gamified learning on diverse student populations to enhance generalizability."

# educational psychology by proposing a novel framework for integrating gamification into traditional curricula."

to the field of

"This study contributes

Addressing Limitations

**Implications** 

"A key limitation of this study is the reliance on self-reported data, which may introduce bias. Future studies could incorporate objective measures to validate these findings."

# Integration with Results

- Continuously link the discussion back to the study's results and objectives.
- Avoid introducing new data not presented in the results chapter.

#### **COMPARISON DISCUSSION IN ARTICLE JOURNAL VS THESIS**



Aspect	Article Journal	Thesis
Purpose	To present concise and focused insights based on key findings.	To provide a detailed and comprehensive analysis of findings.
Length	Shorter and highly condensed (2-3 pages typically).	Longer and more elaborative, often several chapters or sections.
Audience	Targeted to a specialized academic or professional audience.	Primarily addressed to examiners, supervisors, and peers in academia.
Focus	Focuses on key results and their relevance to the research question.	Covers all findings, including minor details, with exhaustive interpretation.
Structure	Typically follows IMRaD (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion).	More flexible, often includes separate sub-sections for each objective or theme.
Integration with Literature	Compares findings briefly with prior research for context and significance.	Provides an extensive comparison with literature, including theoretical frameworks.
Level of Detail	Minimal detail on methodology or background—focused mainly on results interpretation.	Includes detailed explanations of methodology, theoretical context, and broader implications.
Tone and Style	Highly formal, concise, and to the point.	Formal but allows for in-depth exploration and reflection.
Implications and Recommendations	Brief, targeted to a professional or academic audience.	More extensive, often including policy or practical recommendations.
Limitations Discussion	Summarized briefly to meet space constraints.	Thorough discussion of all methodological and contextual limitations.
Generalization of Findings	Often broader to appeal to a wider audience.	Typically focused on the study's specific context and scope.
Future Research	Brief suggestions, often tied to current trends in the field.	Detailed exploration of possible future studies or areas for improvement.





### **How to Write a Captivating Discussion Section**

End on a high note

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- Conclude with a compelling statement about the study's contribution to the field.
- Leave the reader with a strong sense of the study's relevance and future potential.

Start with strong opening

Орег

Restate the Importance of the Study

- Briefly remind the reader of the research question or objective.
- Highlight why the findings are significant in addressing the problem.

Focus on Key Findings





Use figures, tables, or diagrams sparingly to emphasize key points.

 Ensure visuals are clear, relevant, and add value. **Engage with visual** 



**Use Storytelling** 

- Present your findings in a narrative style, showing how they align with or challenge existing knowledge.
- Use transitions to connect ideas smoothly and keep the reader engaged.

 Don't Repeat Results: The discussion should interpret, not reiterate, findings.

- Avoid Overgeneralization: Ensure conclusions align with the scope of the data.
- Stay Objective: Avoid overstating the significance of your findings.

Avoids common pitfalls

Relate Findings to the Broader Context

- Show how your research contributes to the field or addresses real-world challenges.
- Discuss theoretical, practical, or societal implications.

Propose Exciting Future Directions

Be Honest About Limitations

- Address any weaknesses in the study transparently but frame them constructively.
- Use them as opportunities to suggest areas for improvement.

S.K. Hubadillah, et al. Chemical Engineering Journal 379 (2020) 122396

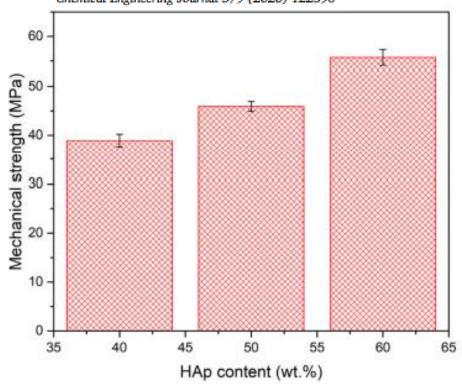


Fig. 7. Mechanical strength of h-bio-CHFMs prepared with different HAp content at the sintering temperature of 900 °C.



characteristics, the mechanical strengths of the bio-CHFMh prepared with different HAp content were determined using the three-point bending test (Fig. 7). The mechanical strength of the membranes increased with higher HAp content due to the presence of the thinner finger-like structure. The h-bio-CHFM prepared with 40 wt% of HAp content exhibited the lowest mechanical strength of 38.9 MPa. This is according to the unstable structure of the membrane as discussed in Fig. 5. Meanwhile, the h-bio-CHFM prepared with the highest HAp content of 60 wt% demonstrated the highest mechanical strength of 55.7 MPa. Herein, there are two reason can be made: (1) the size of finger-like region. According to Othman et al. [43], the finger-like structure diminished the strength of the membrane by reducing the integrity of the sponge-like structure region. The similar observation was also observed by Paiman et al. [44] who studied the yttria-stabilized zirconia. (2) thickness of the membrane. Taken together, the mechanical strengths of the membrane prepared in this study were

relatively lower compared to those obtained in most of the previous studies (> 100 MPa). This can be explained by the mechanism of the

neck growth between the HAp particles that failed to induce the shrinkage or densification at the low sintering temperature of 900 °C [45]. Therefore, it was necessary to study the effect of sintering tem-

perature towards the h-bio-CHFMs.

To further investigate the effect of HAp content on the membrane

Introduction



Explanation the trend of the graph



Explanation to show the novelty, related with available mechanism, phenomenon and previous work

Conclusion









#### 1. Craft an Intriguing Title or Subheadings

- •Use creative yet clear subheadings to organize the discussion and draw the reader's attention.
  - Example: Instead of "Results Interpretation," try "Unlocking the Impact of Engagement on Learning."

#### 2. Use Analogies or Metaphors

- •Simplify complex ideas by using relatable analogies or metaphors.
  - **Example:** "The interaction between these variables acts like a domino effect, where one small change triggers a cascade of outcomes."

#### 3. Vary Sentence Structure

•Combine short, impactful sentences with longer, descriptive ones to create rhythm and keep the reader engaged.

#### **Example:**

"The findings were unexpected. However, they align with emerging theories in the field."









#### 4. Pose Thought-Provoking Questions

- •Use rhetorical questions to stimulate curiosity and encourage deeper reflection.
  - Example: "What do these results mean for the future of sustainable energy adoption?"

#### 5. Highlight Surprising Results

- •Emphasize any unexpected or novel findings to capture attention.
  - Example: "Contrary to prior research, our study reveals that smaller teams outperform larger ones in collaborative tasks."

#### 6. Use Quotations or References Strategically

- •Include memorable quotes or insights from key literature to add credibility and depth.
  - Example: "As Einstein famously noted, 'Imagination is more important than knowledge.' This finding supports the idea that creativity drives innovation."









#### 7. Keep It Personal (But Professional)

- •Acknowledge your role as the researcher by showing excitement or interest in the findings, while maintaining a formal tone.
  - Example: "These results were particularly exciting, as they challenge long-held assumptions in the field."

#### 8. Use Transitional Phrases to Maintain Flow

- •Ensure ideas are connected seamlessly using phrases (such as phrase bank) like:
  - "Building on this finding..."
  - "In contrast to previous studies..."
  - "This raises an important question about..."

#### 9. Showcase Real-World Relevance

- Relate findings to current events, global challenges, or practical applications.
  - Example: "With climate change at the forefront of global issues, these findings could revolutionize how we approach renewable energy policies."







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#### 10. Incorporate Numbers or Data Wisely

- •Use precise numbers sparingly to emphasize key points.
  - Example: "Over 85% of participants reported improved outcomes, demonstrating the method's effectiveness."

#### 11. Focus on "Why" and "How"

- •Discuss not just what you found, but why it matters and how it fits into the broader context.
  - **Example:** "This improvement can be attributed to the unique interaction between variable X and variable Y, highlighting the importance of synergy in system design."

#### 12. Engage the Reader with Visual Imagery

- •Use descriptive language to paint a picture of the significance of your findings.
  - Example: "These findings illuminate a path forward, like a lighthouse guiding researchers through uncharted waters."









#### 13. Address Controversies

- •Acknowledge and discuss any contentious issues or debates in your field.
  - **Example:** "While some studies argue X, our findings challenge this notion by providing evidence for Y."

#### 14. Balance Optimism with Realism

- •Be confident about the contributions of your research, but realistic about its limitations.
  - Example: "Although these results are promising, they represent a stepping stone rather than a definitive solution."

#### 15. End with a Call to Action

- •Conclude by encouraging future research, applications, or critical discussions.
  - **Example:** "The journey toward understanding this phenomenon has just begun, and it invites further exploration into its multifaceted dimensions."





#### 1. Repeating Results

- •Avoid restating results verbatim from the results section.
- Instead, focus on interpreting and explaining their significance.

#### 2. Introducing New Results

- •Do not present new data or findings in the discussion section.
- •All results should be introduced in the results section and then discussed here.

#### 3. Overgeneralizing Findings

- •Avoid making sweeping statements or claims that go beyond the scope of your data.
- •Be specific and grounded in the evidence provided by your study.

#### 4. Ignoring Contradictions

- Do not overlook findings that contradict your expectations or hypotheses.
- Address them honestly and discuss potential reasons.









#### 5. Being Overly Defensive

- Avoid trying to justify every limitation of your study excessively.
- •Acknowledge limitations objectively and explain their potential impact without undermining the research.

#### 6. Making Unsupported Claims

- Avoid speculating or making claims not supported by your findings or literature.
- •Use evidence to back up your interpretations and conclusions.

#### 7. Neglecting the Literature

- Don't fail to connect your findings with previous research or theoretical frameworks.
- •Relating results to existing studies strengthens the discussion.

#### 8. Focusing Too Much on Negatives

- Avoid excessive focus on the limitations of your study.
- •While acknowledging them is important, balance it by highlighting the study's contributions.



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#### 9. Being Too Technical

- Don't use overly complex language or jargon that might alienate readers.
- Aim for clarity and accessibility.

#### **10. Avoiding Implications**

- Don't end the discussion without addressing the implications of your findings.
- •Highlight their contribution to the field, practical applications, or policy relevance.

#### 11. Failing to Propose Future Research

- Avoid omitting suggestions for future studies or unanswered questions.
- •Use these to show how your research can inspire further exploration.

#### 12. Writing an Unstructured Discussion

- Avoid disorganized or fragmented paragraphs.
- •Use a clear structure with logical flow between sections (e.g., restating findings, linking to literature, discussing implications).







#### 13. Overloading with Citations

•Avoid flooding the discussion with unnecessary citations or references that don't directly relate to your findings.



#### 14. Exaggerating Importance

- •Be cautious of overstating the significance of your findings.
- •Stay objective and avoid making claims like "This completely changes the field" unless fully justified.

#### 15. Ignoring the Audience

•Avoid writing solely for specialists or generalists. Tailor the discussion to your intended audience, whether academic peers or practitioners.

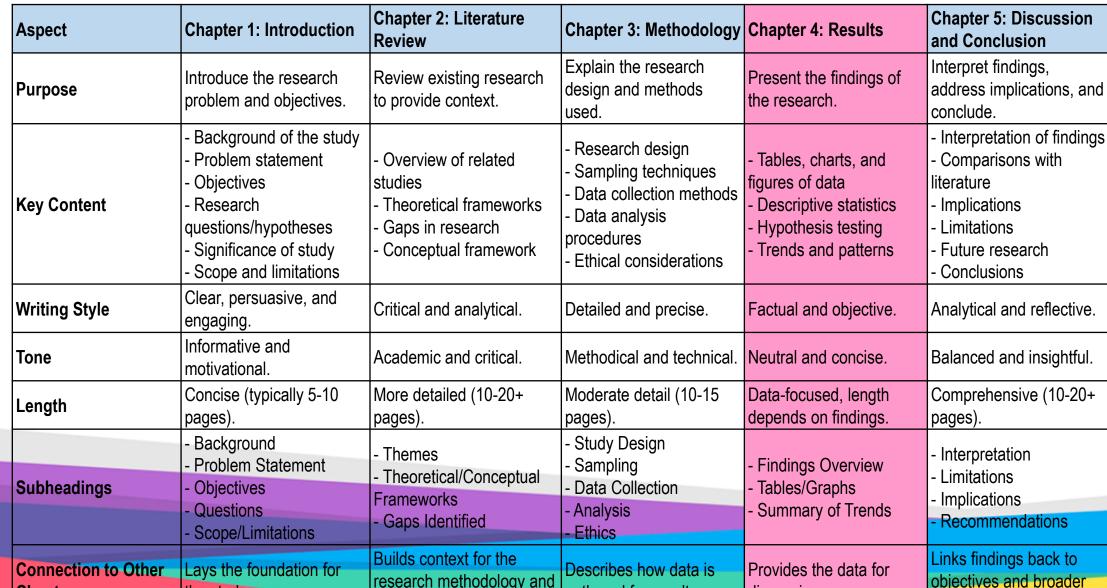
### Table Comparison for Thesis Writing: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

findings.

Chapters

the study.





gathered for results.

discussion.

implications.





### Why the Discussion Section Needs to Be Written in Flow?







- ☐ Enhances Readability
- ☐ Demonstrates Critical Thinking
- ☐ Strengthens Argumentation
- ☐ Facilitates Understanding
- ☐ Highlights the Significance
- ☐ Aligns with Research Objectives
- ☐ Avoids Misinterpretation



WRITING: THE THING THAT HAPPENS IN BETWEEN EXHAUSTING YOUR DEADLINE AND EXHAUSTING YOURSELF.

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The conclusion is the final chapter or section of your research that ties together all the findings, reflects on the objectives, and emphasizes the significance of the study. It's an opportunity to leave a lasting impression and highlight your contribution to the field.

#### **Key Steps to Writing an Effective Conclusion**

- 1. Restate the Research Problem and Objectives
- •Begin by summarizing the main focus of your research.
- •Restate the research question or objectives clearly.

#### 2. Summarize Key Findings

- •Highlight the most significant results without repeating the details from the results section.
- •Focus on answering the research questions or hypotheses.

#### 3. Discuss the Contributions

- •Explain how your research contributes to the academic field, practical applications, or policy-making.
- Highlight its originality or how it fills gaps in existing literature.

## Writing Conclusion for your research

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#### 4. Reflect on Limitations

- •Briefly acknowledge any limitations of your study and their potential impact on the findings.
- •Maintain a balanced tone without undermining your research.

#### **5. Propose Future Research Directions**

- Suggest specific areas or questions for future exploration based on your study's findings and limitations.
- Avoid overly broad or vague recommendations.

#### 6. End with a Strong Closing Statement

- •Conclude with a final, impactful statement that emphasizes the significance of your study.
- •Reinforce its contribution to solving a larger problem or addressing global challenges.

### How to write?

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#### The Rules of Three

- •Within thesis, repeat your contributions 3 times:
  - Intro chapter
  - Main chapters
  - Conclusion chapter
- •Within each chapter, repeat yourself 3 times:
  - Introduction We will show...
  - Body Show them...
  - Conclusion We have shown...



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#### Complex sentences full of long words

• A thesis should be a simple, convincing argument!

#### Impossible to cover all issues

- So you will never finish?
- It's sometimes enough to identify the issues.
- Examiners greatly appreciate you identifying limitations.
- Examiners are greatly happy finding a few mistakes.



### Who will read your writing?

WANT TO SEE IT

AGAIN BEFORE YOU SUBMIT IT.

HERE ARE MY

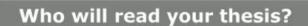
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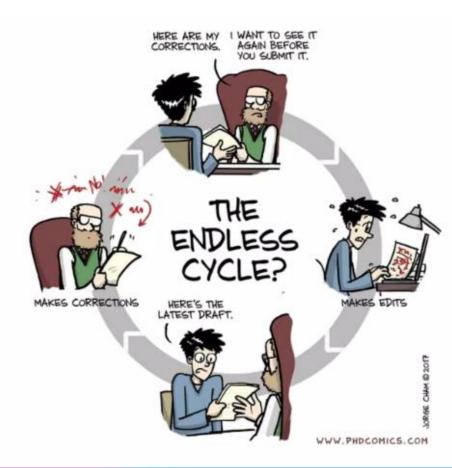








- Supervisors
- Examiners



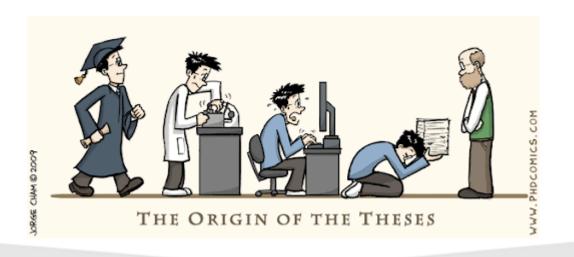
## What SV expect from your writing?

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- •Show initiatives, be proactive, etc.
  - Basically be independent
- Be honest about how things are going
- Produce quality written work that is not a first draft
- Meet deadlines (or explain why not)
- Meet regularly to discuss your progress
- Tell them what you are learning
- Teach them something new



### What Examiners expect from your writing?

- •Did you do the work yourself?
- •Have you done the reading?
- •Do you have a good knowledge of the field?
- •Did you write the thesis yourself?
- •Can you do research independently?
- •Can you teach the subject?
- •Can you talk about it professionally?
- •Have you contributed to knowledge?
- •Did you learn anything?



### **Defend your writing!!**

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#### 1. Understand Your Writing Thoroughly

#### •Know Your Content:

- Be familiar with every part of your writing, including the methodology, findings, and references.
- Anticipate potential questions, especially about key arguments or controversial points.

#### 2. Address Feedback Proactively

#### Review Supervisor or Peer Comments:

- Address critiques and suggestions before the defense.
- If feedback required changes, be ready to explain why you made those adjustments (or why you didn't).

#### 3. Be Clear and Concise

#### Simplify Complex Ideas:

- Use straightforward language to explain technical concepts or arguments.
- Avoid overloading your defense with jargon or unnecessary details.

## **Defend your writing!!**

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#### 4. Provide Evidence for Your Claims

#### Use Data or References:

- Support your arguments with evidence from your research or cited sources.
- Be specific when discussing findings (e.g., "Our analysis showed a 25% increase in efficiency.").

#### 5. Remain Professional and Open-Minded

- Stay Calm and Composed:
  - Don't get defensive when challenged; respond respectfully and thoughtfully.
- Acknowledge Gaps Gracefully:
  - Admit limitations and explain how they can be addressed in future work.

#### 6. Practice Your Delivery

- •Rehearse Aloud:
  - Practice presenting key points clearly and concisely.
  - Engage in mock defenses with peers to gain confidence.



Challenge	Solution
Being asked about a weak point	Acknowledge it and explain how you minimized its impact.
Forgetting key details	Rely on brief notes or visuals as reminders.
Facing unexpected questions	Stay calm, think critically, and provide a logical, honest response.
Overly critical examiners	Respond respectfully, backing your arguments with evidence or theory.













