



# Writing A Psychology Paper

## ABSTRACT

- \* summarize paper's major points(study, results, discussion)
- \*specific and concise
- \*150 words or less
- \*written in past tense
- \*writing this last may help!

## INTRODUCTION

- \*untitled section of the paper
- \*summarize other relevant literature
- \*detailed account of problem or research question
- \*include definitions of variables
- \*include predictions

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

- \*include what you did & how and when you did it
- \*use subheadings
- \*this is the "cookbook" section
- \*use specific, informative language
- \*do not include any results
- \*written in past tense

## RESULTS

- \* summarize and illustrate your findings
- \*use tables or figures if appropriate
- \*do not interpret data or draw conclusions
- \*written in past tense

## DISCUSSION

- \*interpret your results and support with evidence
- \*refer to figures and tables
- \*recognize importance of "negative" results
- \*show both similarities and differences
- \*include suggestions for future research

## LITERATURE CITED

- \*cite all sources used
- \*use APA