Abstract

- Available through abstracting services
- May be the only thing the reader reads
  - Determines whether to search for the original article
  - Decide whether to continue reading
- Goal of the Abstract
  - Clearly describe the research
  - Summarize the most important findings
Abstract - two kinds

- Informative abstract
  - Includes specific information and results
  - Used for journal articles, thesis/dissertation, some presentations

- Descriptive abstract
  - Generally describes the research
  - May be used for papers or posters, especially where abstracts are not published but just help program committee
Abstract

- Generally, ≤250 words
- 1 paragraph
- Avoid jargon
- NO acronyms or abbreviations
- Cite full genus, species, and author the first time mentioned
Abstract

Brief items from each section of the article (1-2 sentences each)

– Introduction
  » 1 sentence for background
  [may be eliminated]
– Objectives (abbreviated)
– Methods (brief/general)
  » Methods can often be omitted
  » Results may tell enough about the methods
Abstract

Brief items (continued)

- Results and discussion
  » Key points/differences, usually not actual data or statistical values
  » State “significantly higher or lower” rather than “significantly different”
- Concluding sentence
Writing the Abstract

- Start by
  - Listing:
    » Objectives
    » Major findings
- Put your list into a text paragraph
- Go to the end of your Discussion for a concluding sentence for the abstract - So What!
Key Words

- List 3 to 6
- One “word” = single word or couplet (e.g. population dynamics, biological control)
- Usually only list words not already in the title
- What do you want readers to search for and find?
  - Give genus & species, common name, descriptive words not in title, plus others
Authorship

- Person who did the research and wrote the article is first author
- In entomology, generally no significance to order of other authors.
- Include others who contributed, including writing the original grant.
  - Do I include xxx who helped a little but not a lot? Maybe he/she should be in acknowledgements. Are publications important to his/her career?
Acknowledgments

- People who helped with research, reviewing the manuscript, etc.
  - Can be general “Thanks to xx and xx for their help with this research”. Often includes staff who helped but not summer student workers unless they had a major role.

- Source(s) of funding
  - General - e.g., Supported in part by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, etc.
  - Funding agency may require that you cite the specific grant number
Running head

Generally a shorter version of the title (≤65 characters)

Include key words

Start with author(s)
  – Smith et al. Growth rates of...
Submitting Your Article

- Select journal carefully
  - Who is your target audience?
- Go to journal for instructions for submission
- Entomological Society of America - online through Rapid Review System
  - http://www.rapidreview.com
Submitting Your Article

- Follow instructions carefully-
  - www.entsoc.org/Pubs/Publish/Style/index.htm

Nobody wants an unhappy editor or reviewer. Your article may just be sent back if the format is not right.
Review Process

- Managing editor forwards article to subject matter editor (a scientist in your field)
- Subject matter editor contacts reviewers (2) for comments
- Article may be rated as “accept”, “accept with minor revisions”, “reconsider after major revisions” or “reject”
  - Most often “accept with major revisions”
- Subject editor’s and reviewers’ comments are sent back to you for revisions
Review Process (continued)

■ Open the envelope or the file and then put it away for a few days -
  – It’s always hard to see the criticism
  – Revisions really will help the article

■ Make recommended changes

■ Return to subject editor indicating the specific changes that were made

■ If changes are different than recommended, justify why
Review Process (continued)

- Subject editor has full authority at this point.
- Make all recommended changes, except for ones that are clearly wrong.
- Don’t argue on more than one or two points.
Review Process (continued)

- Reviewers’ comments or recommended changes may be incorrect but this still indicates confusion - revisions are in order
  - e.g., “Reviewer number 1 misinterpreted the methods used for this experiment and the recommended changes are not appropriate. The description of these methods have been rewritten and clarified (lines 230 to 234).”
Review Process (continued)

- Manuscript goes back to subject matter editor
  - It may come back to you for further changes
- Final copy editing is done and sent back to you for corrections (done by a non-scientist, but professional editor)
- As before, if copy editor misinterprets and recommends incorrect modifications, explain why suggestions are not correct and consider revision.
- Make final corrections and return to editor ASAP - make any last minute corrections or changes now!
Review Process (continued)

- Final page proofs are prepared and sent to you for rapid review (often ± 2 days)
- Make corrections
- Only absolutely necessary changes should be made at this date - you will be charged extra for changes and it may delay the publication of the entire journal issue
- Article appears in print
Review Process (continued)

- **Time required**
  - Reviews - 4 to 8 weeks
  - Your revisions - 3 to 4 weeks
  - Copy editing - 3 to 4 weeks
  - Final changes - 2 weeks
  - Appears in print - 6 to 8 weeks

- **Total = 6 to 12 months [see journal articles for actual time from submission to printing]**
Charges

- Page charges (Entomol Soc - $52/page of final article [members]); $300-400 for average article

- Generally paid by original grant/institution - talk to your major professor

- Reprints - hard copy or “open access” pdf
  - $181/100 copies of 5-8 p. article
  - $136 for open access pdf file

  » Unlimited free access for everyone
Assignments

- Proposal due April 21
- Small groups meet April 28-29
- No lecture April 28
- Final paper and final proposal due May 8