

Writing the Title of Research

Pre - Ph.D. Course Work Paper I


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Writing the Title of Research


- **The title is the first thing that the readers see. Therefore, it should be attractive and create a good impression**
- **The title is without doubt the part of a paper that is read the most**
- **By its sheer positioning at the top, the title occupies a pristine position in a research paper and readers are inadvertently drawn to it first**




A good title should have the following properties:

- 1. It needs to be very specific in nature**
 - 2. In spite of being specific, it should also have expressive power to show the entire scale of the research studies in those few words**
 - 3. It should tell the total nature of the subject**
 - 4. It needs to be very definite and clear**
 - 5. It needs to be attractive and interesting enough to catch the attention of the reader**
 - 6. Most importantly, the title of the research is the research problem in capsule form. It must clearly reflect the topic of investigation and must be original, clear and concise.**
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Standards in Writing the Title

- 1. The title must be concise. It should contain only words which are enough to hint the content of research.**
 - 2. For brevity in the title, the following expressions should be dropped: 'A Study of', 'The implication of', 'A Comparative Study of', 'An Assessment of', 'An Analysis of', 'An Enquiry into', 'An Investigation of' and the like.**
 - 3. Title should be limited to substantive words to ensure reader's interest and focus.**
 - 4. Use current nomenclature from the field of study**
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- 5. Use correct grammar and capitalization. Capitalize first word and the first word after a colon. Do not capitalize: a, an, and, the, or short prepositions, if they are not the first letter in the title**
- 6. A period generally has no place in the title (even a declaration phrase can work without a period)**
- 7. Likewise, any kind of dashes (“ - ”) and semi colons (“ ; ”) should be avoided. However, hyphen to link words and colon to make two-part title are acceptable.**
- 8. You can also use a colon to add additional information to the title. However, using a very long subtitles can sometimes be cumbersome and counter productive.**
- 9. Avoid Roman numerals (e.g.– III, IX)**

- 10. Restrict the use of abbreviations (except which are standard and widely known).**
 - 11. Initialization and Acronyms – do not use acronyms without spelling them out. Readers who are not familiar with their meaning may simply skip your article even though it is relevant to their research.**
 - 12. Avoid questions marks**
 - 13. Do not use numerical exponents or units, for e.g. km/hr**
 - 14. In academic papers, rarely is a title followed by exclamation marks**
 - 15. Do not italicize the title unless it has some purpose**
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How to Construct Title:

Step 1: Ask yourself a few questions about your research paper

Step 2: Identify and list keywords and phrases from these responses

Step 3: Use these keywords to create one long sentence

Step 4: Create a working title

Step 5: Eliminate all extra words or phrases to reset a suitable word count: place keywords at the beginning and end of your title

Example:

- 1. Empowerment of Women through Women Dairy Cooperatives**
- 2. Development of Low Cost Value Added Food for Nutritional Enhancement of Mid-Day Meal of School Children (6-12 years) of Bihar: A Case Study of Patna Sadar**



- ▶ **Different disciplines may have different rules about what a title should be like. If you are aware of a specific expectation, you should conform to those guidelines.**

References

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- ▶ www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/avimpyljpcqnmsxzkfdct4zjx5b0wofnli4dyjk2a_oupixpra90djm/
- ▶ libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/title (Title)
- ▶ www.enago.com/academy/writing-a-good-research-title-things-to-avoid/ (Title)
- ▶ wordvice.com/how-to-write-the-perfect-title-for-your-research-paper/ (Title)