



TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN NAMAKKAL

Department of English

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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Presented by

**Mrs. S. BHARATHI M.A., B.Ed.,
M.Phil.,SET.,NET.,**

Assistant Professor

Department of English

<http://www.trinitycollegenkl.edu.in/>

INTRODUCTION

- Selecting a topic
- Conducting Research
- Compiling a Working Bibliography
 - Evaluating sources
 - Taking Notes
 - Outlining
 - Writing Drafts
- Language and Style

Research

- Research is a combination of both experience and reasoning and can be said to be the most appropriate way of discovering the truth, precisely in the natural Sciences.
- The need to research came due to the following reason
 1. To acquire a degree
 2. To get respectability
 3. To face a challenge
 4. To solve a problem
 5. To get Intellectual Joy
 6. To Serve Society by increasing Standard of living for Science and technology and by showing right path to society in case of social and behavioural Sciences.

Qualities of a Good Research

A good research method should lead to

- i Originality/ Novelty
- ii Contribution to knowledge
- iii Significance
- iv Technical soundness
- v. Critical assessment of existing work.

Types of Research

Action Research: This type of research is mostly essential in applied research where it requires implanting recommended changes to a process, bearing in mind to solve a problem and to carry out research to determine the effectiveness of identified changes. It aims at solving an identified problem based on recommendations made to a process.

ii. **Creative Research:** Creative research involves the development of new theories; new procedures and new inventions and is used to some extent in all fields, in contrast to experimental research, creative research is much less structured and cannot always be preplanned. This type of research includes both practical and theoretical research.

iii. **Descriptive Research:** This type of research is also called a “case –study research”. It involves studying a specific situation to ascertain whether any general theories may arise out of it whether an existing theory are borne out by specific situations. e.g in anthropological studies etc

iv. **Experimental Research:** The cornerstone of science is experimental and creative research. Experimental research is primarily concerned with cause and effect.

Good Literature Review

A good literature review, therefore, is critical of what has been written, identifies areas of controversy, raises questions and identifies areas which need further research.

According to Caulley (1992) of La Trobe University, the literature review should do the following:

- compare and contrast different authors' views on an issue
- group authors who draw similar conclusions
- criticise aspects of methodology
- note areas in which authors are in disagreement
- highlight exemplary studies
- highlight gaps in research
- show how your study relates to previous studies
- show how your study relates to the literature in general
- conclude by summarising what the literature says

Research Proposal

Title of Project:

It should be concise and descriptive. For example, the phrase, "An investigation of . . ." could be omitted. Often titles are stated in terms of a functional relationship, because such titles clearly indicate the independent and dependent variables. However, if possible, think of an informative but catchy title. An effective title not only pricks the reader's interest, but also predisposes him/her favourably towards the proposal.

Abstract:

It is a brief summary of approximately 300 words. It should include the research question, the rationale for the study, the hypothesis (if any), the method and the main findings. Descriptions of the method may include the design, procedures, the sample and any instruments that will be used.

Research Proposal

The main purpose of the introduction is to provide the necessary background or context for your research problem. How to frame the research problem is perhaps the biggest problem in proposal writing. If the research problem is framed in the context of a general, rambling literature review, then the research question may appear trivial and uninteresting.

1. State the research problem, which is often referred to as the purpose of the study.
2. Provide the context and set the stage for your research question in such a way as to show its necessity and importance.
3. Present the rationale of your proposed study and clearly indicate why it is worth doing.
4. Briefly describe the major issues and sub-problems to be addressed by your research.
5. Identify the key independent and dependent variables of your experiment.
Alternatively, specify the phenomenon you want to study.

Literature Review

1. Ensures that you are not "reinventing the wheel".
2. Gives credits to those who have laid the groundwork for your research.
3. Demonstrates your knowledge of the research problem.
4. Demonstrates your understanding of the theoretical and research issues related to your research question.
5. Shows your ability to critically evaluate relevant literature information.
6. Indicates your ability to integrate and synthesize the existing literature.
7. Provides new theoretical insights or develops a new model as the conceptual framework for your research.
8. Convinces your reader that your proposed research will make a significant and substantial contribution to the literature (i.e., resolving an important theoretical issue or filling a major gap in the literature).

THANK YOU

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