

Students – additional information that expands on the slide content has been included in the speaker notes section for your convenience. If speaker notes are available you will see a speech bubble icon in the top left corner. Hover over the icon to see the speaker notes for that slide.

UBC SHARC 2016 Workshop

Writing an effective abstract

Linda Herbert

Student Research Coordinator, Faculty of Medicine, UBC

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UBC MD 2019



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Science Communication

Tips for effectively sharing your research

Part 1: Writing an effective abstract

Linda Herbert, MSc

Student Research Coordinator, Faculty of Medicine, UBC



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Writing an effective abstract

- ❑ Think about the purpose
- ❑ Know your audience
- ❑ Generate interest
- ❑ Watch your language
- ❑ Have structure
- ❑ Adhere to the guidelines!



Photo source: [David Cosand](#)
(flickr)





1. Think about the purpose

presentation?

website?



manuscript?

Grant application?



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1. Know your Audience

Who?

Why?

What?



What?



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Examples

“Blah, blah blah a very detailed and specific name of a treatment group (wild-type, genetic...



Examples

What are the impacts of environmental hypoxia and hypercarbia on cardiac performance in the armoured catfish?

How do the low oxygen levels and high carbon dioxide levels in the Amazon river affect heart function in the armoured catfish?

How does the water in the Amazon river affect how catfish hearts work?





2. Generate Interest

Engaging title

but[^]appropriate

manuscript \neq conference program



**Presentation
attendance**

Why should we care?



Examples



 Cardiac performance of perfused
cucian carp hearts during anoxia 

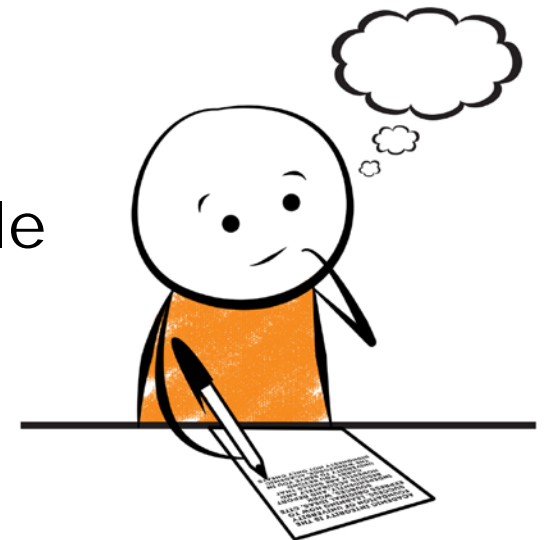


How do carp survive without oxygen?



4. Watch your language

- Be clear and concise
- Don't mislead
- Use short, direct sentences
- Keep it readable
- Keep it audience appropriate
- Use appropriate tone and style
- Active or passive voice?
- Think about SEO



Examples

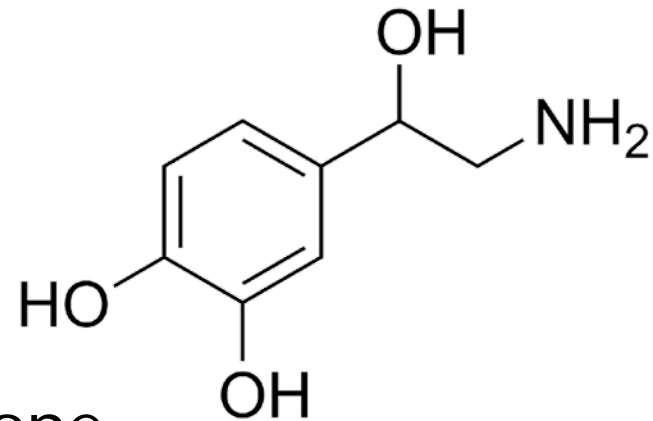
The heart rate of hypoxic and normoxic turtles both decreased, with normoxic turtles decreasing to a greater extent.

The heart rate of normoxic turtles decreased from 25 bpm -10 bpm while that of hypoxic turtles decreased from 5 bpm-1 bpm.





5. Have structure



- An abstract should stand alone
- Include all the components
- Focus on the important stuff
- Include all the necessary details, no more
- Lead the reader/viewer
- 1-2 take home messages
- Edit, edit and edit again! It's always harder to write less!





5. Adhere to the Guidelines

- Length
- Format
 - Sections or paragraph format?
 - Font choice
 - Layout and style guides
- Compatible with submission system
- Don't include references
- Submit on time!



SHARC Guidelines

- Write for a general audience
- 350 words maximum
- 10 point Times New Roman, single spaced
- Style guidelines for titles, author names

Deadline: FEBRUARY 21, 2106

My Abstract Title is in Title Case

Amundsen, R. (1), F. Nansen (1), J. Franklin (1,2) and R.F. Scott (2)



Upcoming Workshops

Abstract feedback* (Feb 12th)

*LSC 1392 or via email

Designing a research poster (Feb 26th)

Presenting a research poster (Mar 4th)

Preparing/presenting a 1 minute 1 slide lightning talk (Mar 11th)

LSC 1; DHCC LT, MSB 160; RHS 257; NHSC 9-235



Resources

<http://med.ubc.ca/current-learners/research/present-publish/>



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