

STARTING AND FINISHING TOUCHES TO A PERFECT RESEARCH PAPER AND ITS PRESENTATION

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The aim of the research. Every student at a higher education institution produces research papers as part of the curriculum, their purpose being to develop learner's autonomy, responsibility, and professional competencies; reinforce the ability to analyse, systematise, summarise, and formulate conclusions; apply the knowledge acquired during studies, and evaluate the outcomes of self-study. The research aims to investigate the inaccuracies that occur in students' research papers and suggest how to avoid them while formulating the title of the paper, designing the structural parts, drafting, editing the final product, and preparing for its presentation.

Keywords: drafting, editing, formatting, methodological guidelines, research paper

Research methodology. The review of the methodological guidelines for developing and presenting study papers is followed by the analysis of the structural and linguistic drawbacks noticed in the research papers of Business English students. The inaccuracies have been classified considering their type: structural and linguistic. The analysis concludes with the recommendations how to properly start and finish a research paper.

Findings. The research revealed that the most frequent structural inaccuracies are the wrong distribution of sections and subsections in the theoretical review and lack of generalisations at the end of them; failure to adhere to formatting requirements in an attempt of increasing the number of pages of the paper. The linguistic mistakes are of lexical-semantic, grammatical nature and occur mostly in the analytical part, where the students have to describe the findings of their investigations. Sometimes they are made due to interference from the native language. However, the most significant errors are the wrong examples provided while analysing a specific linguistic phenomenon.

Practical implications. The findings of the research suggest that students have to be attentive during Applied Research Methodology classes and know the requirements set for developing a specific research paper in approved Methodological Guidelines. It is impossible to start researching without knowing how to do it. Another important point is to discuss the process of drafting the paper with the supervisor, who will later become a scientific advisor. Not only linguistic competencies but also communication skills prove to be highly significant. Besides, the development of a research paper is not a one-week spurt. Students should strive for accuracy at the very start and feel responsibility for the investigation and the text provided.