

Providing a Solid Structure

How to Publish an Academic Article Workshops

The Society for History Education – The History Teacher

You must
provide a solid
structure for
your article.

- 1) What is structure?
- 2) Two model structures
- 3) Solving structural problems
- 4) To-do list

1) What is structure?

- The structure is the organization of your argument and the evidence for your argument.
- The structure is like the skeleton of the article: invisible but essential.

2) Two model structures – Quantitative

- Section 1 – pyramid structure, general to specific
 - Introduction – broad subject of investigation (often a problem)
 - Review of the literature – literature on the subject
 - Statement of your argument in the context of other works
- Section 2 – Description of study
 - Methods
 - Procedures
 - Materials
 - Context and Setting
- Section 3 – inverse pyramid structure, specific to general
 - Results – report on findings
 - Discussion – comment on the validity of methods and findings
 - Conclusions – place research into the context of other work

2) Two model structures – Qualitative

- I. Introduction
 - Context: who, what, why, where, when
 - Review of scholarly debate
 - Statement of argument
 - Claim for significance
 - Summary of article structure and points
- II. Body
 - Background
 - Analysis 1
 - Subject of analysis 1
 - Subject connected to argument
 - What was discovered
 - Analysis 2
 - Subject of analysis 2
 - Subject connected to argument
 - What was discovered
 - Analysis 3
 - Subject of analysis 3
 - Subject connected to argument
 - What was discovered
- III. Summary
- IV. Conclusion
 - Why this discovery is fascinating
 - Why this article contributes to the scholarly debate

3) Solving structural problems

- Use subheadings
- Summarize often
- Give your argument first followed by evidence related to it

4) To-do list

- 1) Outline a model article
- 2) Outline your article
- 3) Restructure your article