

WRITING A MANUSCRIPT BASED ON DISSERTATION/ THESIS



Checklist for Students or Novice Authors

INTRODUCE THE PROBLEM (DRAW FROM CHAPTER 1)

- Introduce the problem to readers in a way that is interesting and understandable to anyone.
- Include current reference support from experts in the discipline to explain the problem; update as needed from your original work.
- Define key concepts of the problem.
- Explain why addressing this problem is important.
- Include a clear purpose statement in this section and match it in the abstract.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE (DRAW FROM CHAPTER 2 – THIS SECTION WILL BE CONCISE)

- Briefly describe the search methods in your paper.
- Describe the state of the science (often just 2-4 paragraphs) by discussing the studies from this comprehensive perspective, minimizing discussion of each individual study unless it provides unique information (e.g., exceptional findings, historical context).
- Re-search the literature to include any new findings post dissertation/thesis.
- Conclude this section by noting gaps addressed by the study.

DESCRIBE STUDY METHODS (DRAW FROM CHAPTER 3 – ALSO MORE CONCISE THAN THE DISSERTATION/THESIS)

- Clearly describe all study methods (e.g., population and sample; design; theoretical or conceptual framework; intervention; data collection processes, tools, and analysis; ethical considerations).
- Clearly state research question(s) and/or hypotheses.
- If your study is a pilot, consider making your article focus a discussion about the problem, rather than a research report; include your preliminary results as a short exemplar.

PRESENT RESULTS (DRAW FROM CHAPTER 4)

- Discuss findings only at level appropriate to the target audience of your a journal.
- Use figures and tables to present more complex findings.

OFFER SCHOLARLY DISCUSSION (DRAW FROM CHAPTER 5)

Compare/contrast your results to existing knowledge from the literature you discussed earlier in the paper.

Discuss study limitations.

DISCUSS YOUR CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Strengthen your paper by including specific implications for practice, research, education, and policy based on your results.

Conclude your paper with a brief reiteration of the importance of the topic.

Do not add any new information (e.g., new reference sources) in your conclusion.

FINAL CHECK

Note any acknowledgements and/or funding sources.

Review the criteria in Checklist #1 for general scholarly papers.

CITATION: Owens, J.K., Cowell, J.M., Kennedy, S.M., Newland, J.A., & Pierson, C.A. (2020). Mentoring the novice writer to publication: 12 checklists for students, faculty, and other reviewers. *Nurse Author & Editor*, 30(3), 5.