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Research Paper and Term Paper Writing Format

Introduction (Please Read before you begin your Research Study)

All over the world, the fundamentals of writing a Research Paper and Term Paper are largely the same. What may change is the format, because you will find that different schools, and even different departments within the same school, will have different formats for doing their academic papers.

Before you embark on your research study, the important thing to do is to confirm from your supervisor or department the correct format for your Research Paper and Term Paper.

The following is the standard format that comprises of all the required sections. Align the sections to what your school or department requires.

Format

The structure of your research paper should be as follows, unless otherwise instructed by your supervisor or your school:

- i. Title/Cover Page: - indicates your research title and your personal details.
- ii. Abstract: - This is a summary of your entire document in paragraph form, and in about 400 words.
- iii. Table of Contents: - This is automatically generated after completing and formatting the entire document.
- iv. Introduction: - In this section, you explain what your research study is about and why it is relevant. You will go further and talk about other places in the world that experienced the problem you want to solve, and how they resolved the issue. You will also explain other previous studies related to your title, that were conducted, what they found out, and what they concluded and recommended. This last section will help you derive the gaps that your study will seek to address.

In this section, you will also give the research objectives, and the section will end with a clear and well defined thesis statement.

- v. Main Body: - In this section, you will be required to present the various components of the study as subheadings and corresponding explanations and discussions in paragraph form, giving an argument an investigation that includes a critical review of literature on the subject.
- vi. Conclusion: - Discusses the main points of the study, giving a conclusion on each of the main aspects of the study, and gives the new derived thesis from the thesis statement given in the introduction section and the findings based on the empirical review done.
- vii. References/Bibliography:- List all the references you have cited in your document in the format required by your school.

