

How to write a good discussion

The discussion section of a scientific thesis is crucial for interpreting the results, placing them in context, and drawing conclusions. Here are the technical steps to write an effective discussion:

1. Start with a Restatement of Hypothesis/Research Question:

- Begin the discussion by restating the main hypothesis or research question. This helps to remind readers of the primary objective of your study.

2. Summarize your Key Findings:

- Provide a concise summary of the main findings from your research. Highlight the key results without going into detailed data presentation (save that for the results section).

3. Relate Findings to Literature, Compare your results to the other studies:

- Discuss how your findings align with or deviate from existing literature. Reference relevant studies and theories to provide context for your results.

4. Interpret Results:

- Offer interpretations of your results. Explain the meaning and significance of your findings. Discuss the implications of your results in the broader context of your field.

You could also Address Unexpected Results:

- If your results deviate from expectations, explain why this might be the case. Consider factors such as methodological issues, external influences, or unanticipated variables.

5. Discuss Methodological Limitations:

- Address any limitations in your study design or methodology. Be honest and transparent about the constraints and potential sources. This shows a critical awareness of the study's scope.

6. Discuss Generalizability:

- Consider the generalizability of your findings. Discuss to what extent your results can be applied to a broader population or context and any limitations to generalization.

7. Propose Future Research Directions:

- Suggest areas for future research based on the limitations or unanswered questions from your study. This demonstrates an understanding of the broader research landscape.

8. Connect back to Research Questions and Objectives, and Conclude the Discussion:

- Revisit your research questions and objectives. Evaluate how well your study addressed these questions and whether the objectives were achieved.

- Conclude the discussion by summarizing the main points and emphasizing the significance of your study. Restate the implications of your findings and their potential impact on the field.

9. Follow a plan:

Remarques:

a-Avoid New Information:

- Resist introducing new information in the discussion that was not presented in the results section. The discussion is for interpreting existing data, not for introducing fresh results.

b-Maintain Objectivity:

- Maintain an objective tone in your discussion. Acknowledge both the strengths and limitations of your study. Avoid making overgeneralized claims or unsupported statements.

c-Review and Revise:

- Review your discussion for clarity, coherence, and logical flow. Ensure that each paragraph contributes to the overall argument and that the discussion aligns with the study's objectives.

d-Seek for Feedback:

- Share your discussion with peers, mentors, or advisors to get feedback. External perspectives can help you refine your arguments and ensure that your discussion effectively communicates the significance of your research.