

5. CONCLUSION

This study has investigated the rhetorical move-step patterns in Scopus highly cited psychology research article. The findings of this research meet the objectives by analyzing the rhetorical move-step structures used in the corpus. The data from the corpus can be effectively analyzed using the combination of frameworks employed in this study. The results of this study show the important move and step structures that should be present in each section of a psychology research article. As described in the result and discussion section, four conventional moves must appear in the abstract section: *introduction, purpose, product, and conclusion*. Moreover, six conventional move-steps must appear in the introduction section. The rhetorical move-steps are *establishing a territory with a step topic generalizations of increasing specificity; establishing a niche with indicating a gap; and presenting the present work by announcing present research descriptively and/or purposively*. Furthermore, a conventional move that must appear in the method section is *describing the study by describing the experimental or study procedures*. Six conventional move-steps should appear for the result, discussion, and conclusion sections. Such move-steps consist of *background information with restating key features of the study, summarizing or restating key results and presenting results neutrally, summarizing or restating key results and highlighting result, commenting on key results or other features and establishing the meaning of results, commenting on key results or other features and explaining results or discussing effect, drawing implications and making recommendations for future research or practice*. Hence, this study offers move-steps that can be used to write research articles in psychology in Appendix A.

The findings provide a valuable framework for researchers to craft more effective and convincing research articles. By understanding the optimal rhetorical structure, researchers can increase the chances of their articles being accepted and significantly impacting psychology. Nevertheless, this research is not without its limitations. The analysis is predicated on a restricted data set, which may not adequately represent the intricacies of all highly cited research articles. Consequently, additional research is required to investigate supplementary data sets and hone the framework to thoroughly comprehend the rhetorical structures employed in highly cited psychology research articles. Moreover, in order to guarantee that the results apply to a broader spectrum of research articles, future studies could benefit from a more comprehensive corpus.

