Writing an Abstract

Informative Abstracts

There are several different types of abstracts, but the “informative abstract” is the most common. An informative abstract is usually around 300 words long and effectively summarizes the key components of the original text. When writing your abstract, consider the following questions (as applicable): What is the main argument, thesis, or claim of the text? Why is the information in the text important/why should people care? What methodology/approach was used to discover the claim? What are the implications of the findings?

Scholarship on comics and graphic novels in the last two decades has provided educators with valuable insights on their readership. A new field in academia has emerged around comics’ studies; but there still a need for empirical research. This study attempts to address the scarcity of empirical research on comics through using focus groups and listening to children's voices on the medium. Building on Edgar Morin’s philosophy of educating complex thinking, I attempted to incorporate some of his educational suggestions into a comic book that I used as reading material for the children focus groups. Finally, Thierry Groensteen’s system of comics provided a theoretical framework for analysing [sic] the study findings. The study suggests that comics can be a suitable medium for educating critical thinking and introducing complex and abstract concepts to children.

Harbi, Amine. "'He Isn't an Animal, He Isn't a Human; He is just Different': Exploring the Medium of Comics in Empowering Children's Critical Thinking." Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics, vol. 7, no. 4, 2016, pp. 431-444.

Further Resources:
The Writing Center and UNC-Chapel Hill – “Abstracts”
Purdue Online Writing Lab – “Writing Report Abstracts”
Philip Koopman, Carnegie Mellon University – “How to Write an Abstract”

Questions?

The Academic Writing Center
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