Structure of the scientific paper

Research paper: Structure is everything

Introduction	What did I want to do?
Method	How did I do it?
Results	What did I find?
And	
Discussion	What might it mean?

Title – Definition

A highly condensed version of your abstract

Irreducible number of terms needed to accurately describe the content of the paper

Title – Types

Indicative

Maintenance treatment of major depression in old age: randomized controlled trial

Informative

Two-year mainenance therapy with paroxetine prevents recurrent depression in old age: randomized control trial

Abstract

Classical form

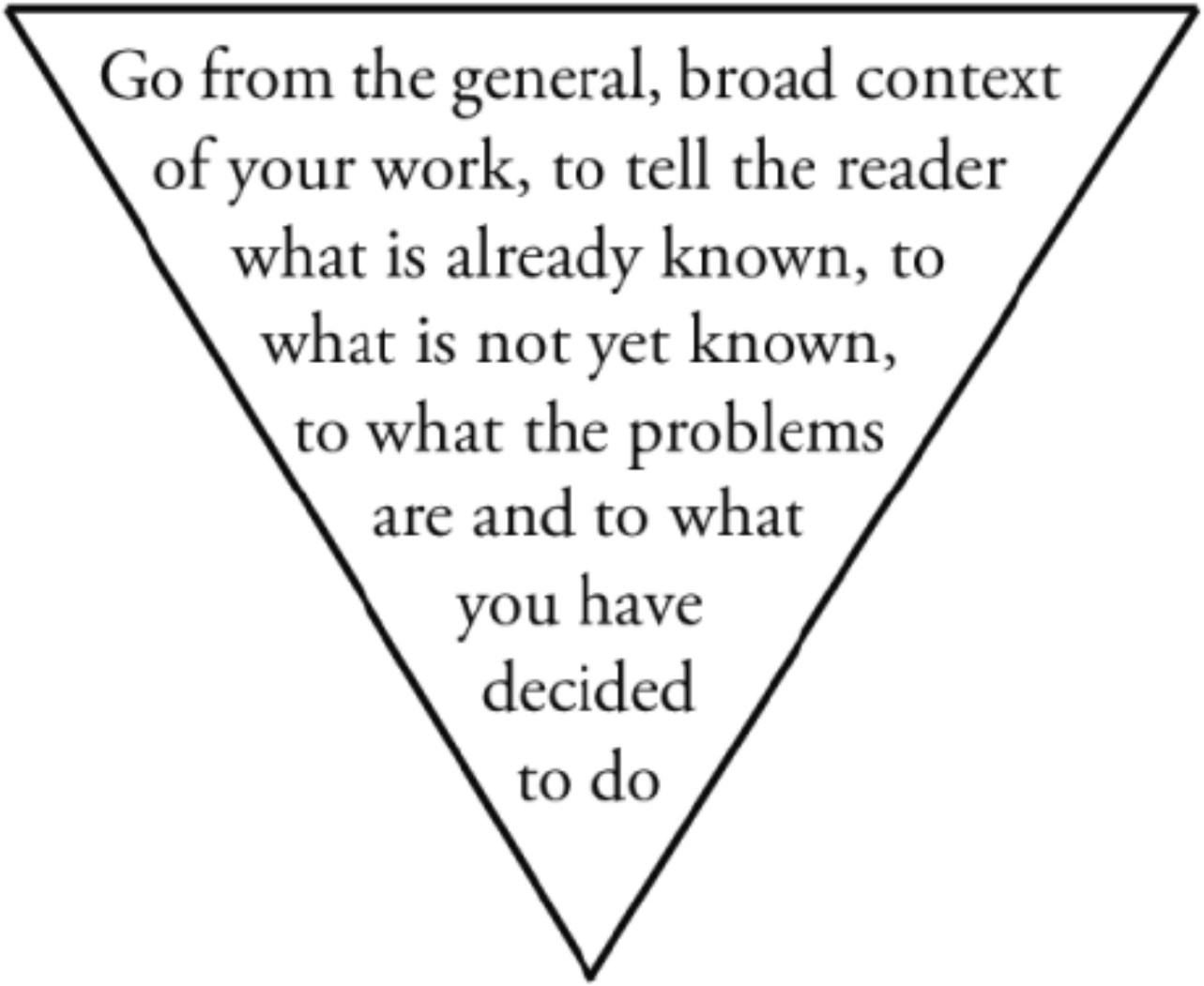
Structured

Aim
Method
Results
Conclusions

→

Objective
Setting
Participants
Design
Intervention
Main outcome measures
Results
Conclusions

Structure of a scientific article: Introduction



Structure of a scientific article: Methods

- Like a recipe
- For informed readers this is the most important section
- Describe how subjects were selected and excluded
- Don’t describe standard methods in detail - use references
- Statistics
- Ethics

Structure of a scientific article: Results

Figures and Tables should:

- Add information
- Save space
- Be self-explanatory
- Not be overloaded with numbers or ink

Structure of a scientific article: Discussion