

WRITING AN ABSTRACT

An abstract is a succinct summary of your work or research.

It must encapsulate the essence of your presentation, for the reader to decide whether it is of any relevance.

Abstracts are usually written once your work or research is complete, and you wish to present your findings at conference level or to submit a paper for publication. It briefly outlines the content of your work. It should not exceed 300 words.

Writing an abstract follows certain principles, no matter what the content or disciplines are.

Keep the following in mind when writing up an abstract.

- What is the importance of my work, and how can I engage the reader to be interested in what I have to say?
- What is the point I wish to make regarding my findings/ problem solving?
- How did I go about identifying the problem/need; what methods did I use to attain my findings?
- Indicate the results of the information gathered with reference to evidence based data obtained/ trends used.
- Does this work relate to present day practise, or can it be used for future research/practise?

Since your abstract is promoting all your hard work, it is important to “get it right.” Write it well! Remember you have ownership of this information, and the abstract should be a reflection of this.

Make sure it conveys all that you wish the reader to reflect on, and to “entice” them to want more!

Do several drafts, and get your peers to review- they are your best critics.

Most of all, enjoy the experience and GOOD LUCK!

ENSA Conference Organising Committee