

Fundamentals of Ecology

Writing a Scientific Report and Preparing an Oral
Presentation

Deadlines

Oral presentation

All groups on the **28.05.2020**

From **11:00 to 13:00**



Report

Submit anytime from
the **29.05.2020 up to 03.08.2020**



Logistics

Oral Presentation Day

There will be **2 committees** hosting **parallel sessions on Zoom**.

Each group will be invited to one of the Zoom session:

COMMITTEE 1

AQUATIC 1
AQUATIC 2
AQUATIC 3
TERRESTRIAL 4
TERRESTRIAL 5

COMMITTEE 2

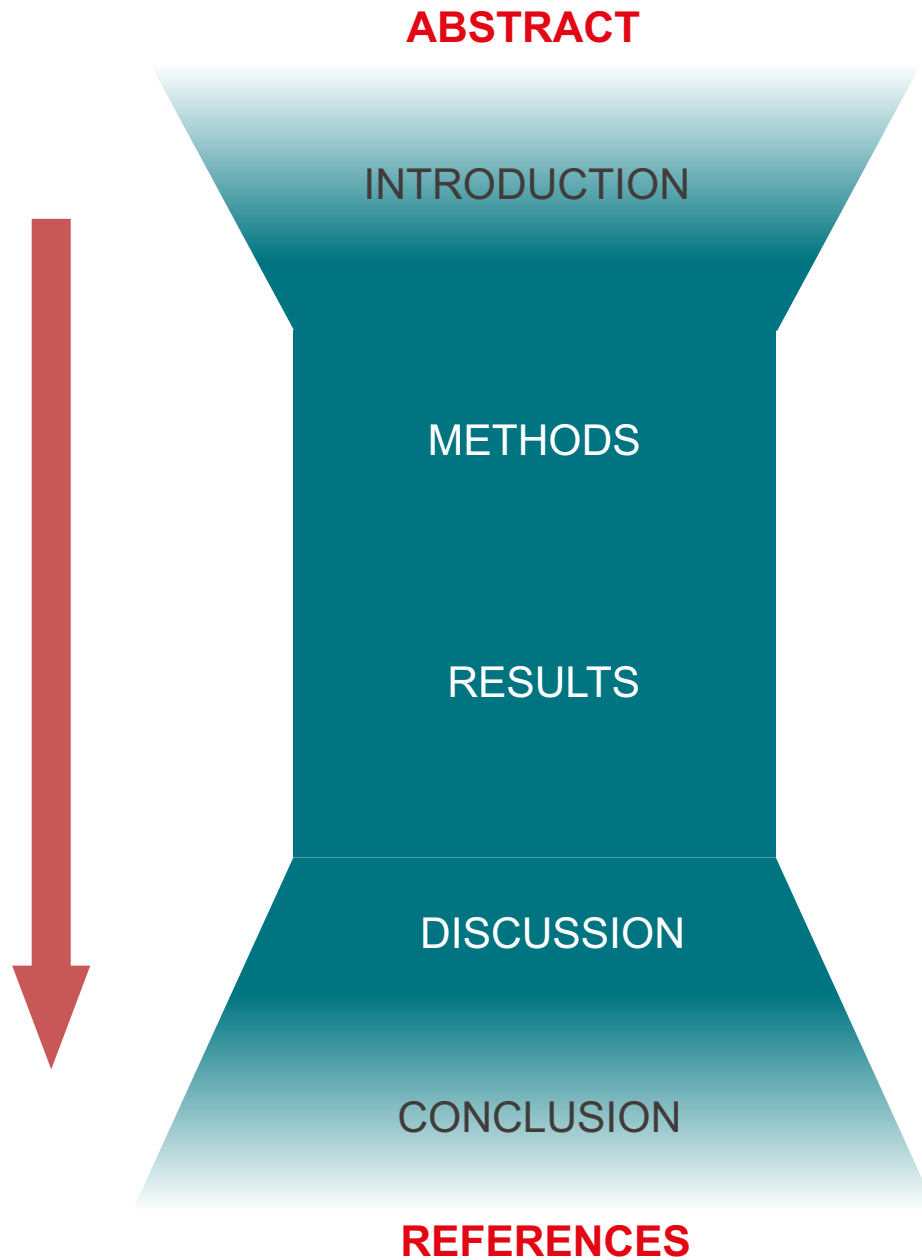
TERRESTRIAL 1
TERRESTRIAL 2
TERRESTRIAL 3
AQUATIC 4
AQUATIC 5

Writing a Scientific Report



General Information

- **Format and length:** 12 pages of text (including graphs) with Times or Arial 12p.
- **Language:** English
- Appendixes are possible only if they are referred in the text.
- **Key words:** Brevity; Accuracy; Consistency



Introduction

- Situate the context of the problem and summarize the state of knowledge in the field
 - Expectation: *5 peer-reviewed references* of the main works
- Identify research gap
- Define the **objectives and hypothesis** of the project
- Bring out the technical and scientific **importance** for answering open questions



~ 1 page

Split into **coherent**
paragraphs

- Principles of the method

- **Experimental setup**

Description of study area, study sites, experiment design, sampling occasions)?

You can use visuals like maps or photos!

- Field and lab protocols

Including the devices and time schedule

- Computer programs used for the analysis and method for extracting results

Which statistical analysis did you run?

You must “pretend”
that you have done
the **full experiment**
this semester.



~ 2 pages

Split into **coherent**
sub-sections

- **Select** relevant and representative results

- Present in a logical order

- Use visuals

Graphs, illustrations...

- Be specific

legend, units and axis labelling are important

- Provide the **quality and the accuracy**

standard deviation, reproducibility, assumptions...



~ 3-5 pages

Split into **coherent**
paragraphs

- **Explain** the results thoroughly – link to initial hypothesis
- **Compare** your results to the literature
- Discuss the **validity** of the results
- Deduct **consequences from the results**
- Point out the original contribution of the results



~ 2-3 pages

Split into **coherent**
paragraphs

Conclusion

- **Answer** the question(s) posed in the introduction
- **Explain** possible future improvements



~ 1 paragraph

What you should not forget !

Abstract

- Contextualise the subject and justify the importance of the investigation
- Include the main question of the study
- Describe the means and the methods employed
- Enumerate the main results and their consequences

1 paragraph

250 words limit

References

- Use the style of your choice but be consistent throughout your report (e.g. APA, IEEE...)
- **Tools**
 - References website
 - <https://www.bibme.org/apa>
 - Library manager
 - Mendeley
 - Zotero



Do you have any questions?

**Voice questions are now allowed
or
write in the chat**

Preparing Oral Presentation



General Information

- **Format** : PowerPoint – **15min max.**
- **Questions**: ~ **5min**
- **Language**: English

Structure of Oral presentation

■ Introduction

- Introduce the topic
- Define **objectives**
- State **hypothesis**

■ Methods

- Be brief and straight to the point

■ Results

- Select the main results and **SPEND** time on this.
- Describe well the graphs or results

■ Discussion

- Makes some **interpretation and links**
- Discuss the **validity** of results and **significance**
- Link to initial hypothesis

■ Conclusion

- Take-home messages
- Future improvement?



Useful tips for oral presentation ?

- **Select** well the information you want to mention
- **Prepare** well with your groups
 - REHEARSE and time yourselves
(Remember: max. 15min)

- Pay attention to your PowerPoint and make it look as clear as possible
 - Make sure all the graphs are easy to read (e.g. axis)
 - Avoid having too much text on slides and use visuals!

Do you have any questions?

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or
write in the chat**