AN ABSTRACT

An **abstract** is a short account of a research paper placed before it. The research article abstract is written by the author of a paper.

An abstract performs a number of important functions. It:

- -serves as a short version of the paper, which provides the most important information;
- - helps, therefore, the potential audience to decide whether to read the whole article or not;
- - prepares the reader for reading a full text by giving an idea of what to expect;

An abstract has certain textual and linguistic characteristics. It:

– consists of a single paragraph;

– contains 4-10 full sentences;

– tends to avoid the first person and to *use impersonal active constructions* (e.g., "This research shows . . . ") or *passive voice* (e.g., "The data were analyzed . . .");

– rarely uses negative sentences;

– avoids using acronyms, abbreviations, and symbols (unless they are defined in the abstract itself);

– does not cite by number or refer by number to anything from the text of the paper.

The most frequent tense used in abstracts is *the present tense*. It is used to state facts, describe methods, make comparisons, and give results.

1. Situating the research (e.g., by stating current knowledge in the field or a research problem).
2. Presenting the research (e.g., by indicating its main purpose or main features).
3. Describing its methodology.
4. Summarizing the results.
5. Discussing the research (by drawing conclusions and/or giving recommendations).

USEFUL (linking) WORDS AND PHRASES

Enumeration:
first, furthermore, finally, first(ly), second(ly), third(ly), to begin/start with, in the second place, moreover, and to conclude, next, then, afterward, lastly/finally

Addition:
also, moreover, then, in addition, besides, too (as well (as), also)

Contrast:
(al)though, however

Summation:
in conclusion, to conclude, to sum up briefly, to summarize, therefore, thus

i.e., that is, e.g., for example, for instance, such as, including, especially, particularly, in particular

Result:
so, therefore, as a result, hence, for this/that reason

USEFUL PHRASES FOR ABSTRACTS WRITING

The article The study The research The paper	presents discusses analyzes considers deals with concerns touches upon draws attention demonstrates		
X Xs	is was has been are were have been		determined singled out classified argued observed tackled calculated shown offered

The *issue* (*problem*, *question*) **concerning** (*regarding, as to, as regards*) use of rolling stock for high-speed transportation **is *investigated*** (*considered, researched, dealt with, concerned with, revealed*) **in the *article*** (*by the author*). The *idea* that presently Ukraine's car and locomotive fleet has no rolling stocks for high-speed carriage of freights and passengers **resulting in** (*entailing*) deterioration of rail transport competitiveness **is *put forward*** (*emphasized, focused on*). **It is *indicated*** (*explained*) that to improve this situation non-terminal transportation by railways along transit corridors can help. Further a range of reasons standing in the way **is *pointed out*** (*noted, specified*). **It is *concluded*** **that** different gauge in Ukraine and in Europe is a main (*major, principal*) technical problem for high-speed traffic "East-West".

The ***article*** (*author*) ***investigates*** (*considers, researches, deals with, is concerned with, reveals*) the ***issue*** (*problem, question*) ***concerning*** (*regarding, as to, as regards*) use of rolling stock for high-speed transportation. The ***idea*** that presently Ukraine's car and locomotive fleet has no rolling stocks for high-speed carriage of freights and passengers ***resulting in*** (*entailing*) deterioration of rail transport competitiveness **is *put forward*** (*emphasized, focused on*). **It is *indicated*** (*explained*) that to improve this situation non-terminal transportation by railways along transit corridors can help. Further the ***article*** (*author*) ***points out*** (*notes, specifies*) a range of reasons standing in the way. **It is *concluded*** **that** different gauge in Ukraine and in Europe is a main (*major, principal*) technical problem for high-speed traffic "East-West".

Наостаннє можна сказати, що над англомовною анотацією треба ретельно працювати у граматичному плані, щоб не порушити логіку оповідання (<u>підмет</u> – <u>присудок</u> – <u>обставина</u>), а саме в **Active voice**: <u>*хто (що)*</u> – <u>*що робить (дія)*</u> – <u>***те***</u>, *на що розповсюджується дія* (<u>*The article*</u> <u>*investigates*</u> <u>*the problem*</u>); у **Passive voice**: <u>***те***</u>, *над чим виконується дія* – <u>*що саме виконується*</u> – <u>*де*</u> *і/або* <u>*ким*</u> *виконується дія* (хоча, *ким* саме виконується дія вказувати не обов'язково) (<u>*The problem*</u> <u>*is investigated*</u> <u>*in the article*</u> (і/або ~~*by the author*~~).