

IMRaD Genre Analysis
March 3 - 9, 2025

Structure: Emily Almazo
Audience/Voice: Mahana
Purpose: Anisha
Support: Omar
Sentence Level: Alex

Structure:

- How is the text organized, and how is that structure made apparent to readers?

The text “Factors affecting the production and measurement of hydrogen peroxide in honey samples” is structured through the use of sub-heading. The authors break and organize the writing by adding these titles as a way to separate data/charts and information. Rather than transition and connecting writing, reader are able to identify when a new part of the text will begin

- How are sections and subsections labeled?

The sections throughout the sample report are labeled through the use of subheadings that are bolded and made larger in size than regular text. These subsections are labeled “Introduction, Methods, Results, Analysis, and Discussion” which follow the standard structure of a lab report.

- What is the thesis and where is it located? What expectations does it set up? How does the text delivered on those expectations?

The thesis within this report is located in both the abstract and towards the end of the introduction. As clarified in the introduction essentially the thesis is that although H₂O₂ is a factor as to why Australian honey is antimicrobial, with this experiment they hope to find other factors that cause the honey to be that way.

Which were found from these two quotes: “Although we found a significant correlation between H₂O₂ production and antibacterial activity across diverse honey samples, variation in H₂O₂ only explained 47% of the variation observed in activity, limiting the assay as a screening tool and highlighting the complexity of the relationship between H₂O₂ and the killing power of honey.” and “The aim of the current study was to examine a set of honey samples that had been found to have high H₂O₂-dependent antimicrobial activity and to test (a) whether this activity was stable over 11–12 years of storage and (b) how activity correlated with H₂O₂ assessed using the HRP test”

This thesis sets up expectations that the experiment will test H₂O₂ relationship with antimicrobial activity and that they will assess different factors that may support the honey in staying/being antimicrobial. Later the text delivers results that address the thesis and their experiment.

- How does the structure guide and support the thesis?/◦ How is the structure used to develop the argument?

Since the report is following the IMRAD method, the reader is able to clearly see where the experiment is presented, how it's tested, the results, analysis and finally are able to read conclusions.

◦ When and how are terms defined?

Most terms are either stated in their scientific name with the correct formatting but also its important to note that when terms like hydrogen peroxide or non peroxide activity it would have a parentheses with its abbreviated term or chemical compound and continued to be addressed that way.

Audience

- Where and how is the audience indicated?

The audience is indicated throughout the entire paper as it is for an academic audience who understands the material and the specific topic.

- Is it clear what the audience can be expected to already know or believe?

Yes it is clear that the audience is expected to already know or believe because for the introduction nothing is explained to the reader and already goes further into the topic.

- How does the text engage with its target audience?

The text engages with its target audience because they know the interest of the demographic and answering questions that might come up.

Purpose:

Where and how is the overall purpose indicated?

- The overall purpose is located within the introduction. The author provides context needed for the reader to understand the purpose of the research.

Identify moves in the introduction.

- The scope of research was indicated through the authors providing context on their topic then directly stating "The aim of the current study". The writer then establishes their position by briefly stating the findings of their research.
- The research gap was indicated in the introduction where the author says "...was not able to explain all of the variation observed in the antibacterial activity of the different honey samples..."

Identify moves in other sections of the paper. What is the author doing (as opposed to saying)?

- The authors include many graphs and charts as ways of explaining data rather than stating it verbally. The authors also use subheadings rather than using transitions to go from one topic to the next.

Support (Data & Literature)

◦ How are claims stated and supported?

- Claims are stated through the subheadings and the text relating to said subheadings. They are supported using explanations of the experiment and the additional charts and graphs that provide data.
- How much context or background is provided?
 - There is a good amount of context and background provided and it is generally located in the abstract and introduction. It is brief but informative.
- Is data presented using charts, tables, figures, etc.?
 - Yes.
- What type and amount of evidence is used, and how is it used?
 - Primary evidence and evidence relating to other similar studies and the results of the experiment performed are used. It is used to explain findings and support claims.
- How is the credibility of the evidence indicated?
 - Credibility is indicated in the concluding comments where the authors acknowledge there were some limitations within the experiment and further research needs to be done. Additionally, the paper cites all their sources at the end.

Sentence Level:

1. Each paragraph in the IMRaD is grouped within margins with a set grouping of them having headings labeled: introduction, methods, results and discussion.
2. There are no direct quotations found anywhere throughout the paper.
3. Citations can be found in the form of graphed data or referenced in the text using explicit numerical percentages.
4. Sentences are grouped together based on their statistical value or their informative value. For example, more informative sets of data are listed within the introduction or discussion sections whilst more numerical pieces of data are found in the methods and results sections.
5. Sentences tend to be moderately long going over a process within the experiment and its aftermath.
6. There are many commas found throughout the paper with hyphens being used only when referring to the scientific names of certain items. There are also many uses of parenthesis to display abbreviations for the scientific names or detailed percentages that make up an item's content.
7. The most commonly used transition phrase was "however" with therefore and resulting being used once or twice.
8. Words such as "catalyze" and "dilute" were used several times in the paper.
9. There is lots of repetition, with words such as: "show, found, use" which are typically substituted, repeated several times.
10. Abbreviations that would be known to someone reading these works but useful to shorten such as: "non-peroxide activity" and "horseradish peroxidase" get changed to "NPA" and "HRP". They are mentioned prior to use.

11. There is almost no level of uncertainty in the writer's speech which is further backed by their constant use of numerical statistics. Typically, words of certainty like "is" are used very often.
12. The most common verb tense is past tense with several words ending with the suffix -ed.
13. Passive Voice
14. The word "I" is never used in the entire paper. The word "we" is used a few times in the section labeled "Abstract" as it is a gist of the entire experiment and its findings; "We" is used once in each section often as a transition to explain what the next step in the process was. However, it was used many times in the "Discussion" section, probably as that is where the findings start to become more relevant in a broad setting.
15. The writing, despite having to detail lots of information, tends to bring together lots of events and findings into a single passive voice sentence throughout most of the piece.

Voice:

How confident does the author sound and how can you tell?

The author maintains a confident tone, our group can tell based on their writing style because they clearly did a lot of research and gave an extensive analysis.

How and where does the author use self-reference or metadiscourse?

Within the introduction the author introduces self-reference when they are talking about studying the honey sample from Australia.

How formal or informal is the tone?

The tone is formal in the research paper.

What causes that level of formality?

What may cause that level of formality is the expert language used and the active voice throughout the research.

Does the author use idiomatic expressions?

The author uses some level of idiomatic expressions more so to emphasize the point of the research and what exactly is being described.

Second IMRAD Report: [Pet ownership and stress among university students. - EBSCO](#)

Structure: Emily Almazo

Audience/Voice: Mahana

Purpose: Anisha

Support: Omar

Sentence Level: Alex

Structure

- How is the text organized, and how is that structure made apparent to readers?

Similar to the first article the text is organized by using subheadings. The subheadings work to guide the reader on to the new information being presented. The overall structure is made apparent as the text is broken into various parts that allow the reader to follow the text.

- How are sections and subsections labeled?

These subsections are labeled: Abstract, Intro, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Acknowledgements. They are easily identifiable as they are bolded and made larger than the regular text.

- What is the thesis and where is it located? What expectations does it set up? How does the text delivered on those expectations?

The thesis in this IMRAD paper was in the first line of the abstract. The author stated “The purpose of this study was to determine whether there is an association between pet ownership and the reported level of stress among college students”(LANTZ, M.; SMITH). This sets readers up to expect that they will find college students with pets and analyze data to see whether there is a positive/negative correlation or a correlation at all. The text meets this expectation as in the methods section they introduce and explain how they gathered data and how they plan to analyze.

- How does the structure guide and support the thesis?

The structure of this report supports the thesis, as each sub section can be considered a path. Since the reader is guided on what to read and with it understands how the test is being run. Ultimately when led to the discussions/result section they are better able to grasp and retain the end results and met with the answer of the author's original question in the abstract.

- When and how are terms defined?

Within this report there are very few terms that need further explaining. However the ones that do or longer words used repetitively, like statistical analysis systems are abbreviated in parenthesis and later used in their shortened term.

Audience:

Where and how is the audience indicated?

The audience is indicated through its focus on veterinary students at St. George University. It has usage of academic terminology so it can be implied that this is meant for researchers and those who are interested in this analysis.

Is it clear what the audience can be expected to already know or believe?

It's clear that the audience is expected to already know or believe because it references familiar research without giving full in depth explanations of the certain concepts.

How does the text engage with its target audience?

The text engages with its target audience by providing relevant data and research that compels a well supported/credible study.

Purpose:

Where and how is the overall purpose indicated?

- Purpose is indicated in the abstract and goes further into detail in the introduction.

Identify moves in the introduction.

- The introduction generally provides background information and context around the topic of pet ownership.

Identify moves in other sections of the paper. What is the author doing (as opposed to saying)?

- Rather than explaining and writing out the method, the author lists this information as bullet points for an easier read. Additionally, the author introduces the result data using charts and graphs rather than writing it out.

Support (Data & Literature)

◦ **How are claims stated and supported?**

- Some claims are stated under the graphs and charts and supported by said graphs and charts.

◦ **How much context or background is provided?**

- Context and background is provided in the introduction.

◦ **Is data presented using charts, tables, figures, etc.?**

- Yes.

◦ **What type and amount of evidence is used, and how is it used?**

- Primary evidence and there is a significant amount of it. Fills a couple pages. It is used to support the claim and back the purpose.

◦ **How is the credibility of the evidence indicated?**

- The credibility of the evidence is indicated at the end of the results where the authors state that there were limitations, one of which includes social desirability bias which may have led subjects to report inaccurate information. Additionally, the authors include an acknowledgement of the conflicts within the research. A resource list is also included.

Sentence Level:

1. This IMRaD is organized with headings labeled: introduction, methods, results and discussion.
2. There are no direct quotations.
3. They are referred to using parentheses in the text.
4. Sentences within the introduction reach a larger audience than those in the methods and results sections which go over more statistical data.
5. A majority of the sentences are relatively short.
6. Hyphens along with semicolons are never used.
7. Words like “however” and “thus” were used several times.
8. There are no field specific phrases that wouldn’t be troubling to understand for a general audience.
9. The word stress is never modified as it is what they are observing in the experiment.
10. Aside from IRB and GPA which are well known SAS is mentioned which stands for Statistical Analysis System, the type of data analysis system they used in their research.
11. There is almost no level of uncertainty in the writer's speech as they provide in depth reasonings for their statements in the intro and have backed up statistics in the methods and results sections.
12. A large majority of the experiment's findings are listed in past tense.
13. Passive Voice with some Active Voice
14. “We” is used to refer to scientists and can be found only in the intro and methods sections.
15. The writing is more concise than our provided Op-Ed and does its best to look through into its statistical findings.

Voice:

- **How confident does the author sound and how can you tell (e.g., certain words, phrasing, etc.)?**
 - The author uses diction that intentionally absolves the paper of any certainty. The IMRaD uses indefinite words like “appears,” “suggested,” and phrases like “may be” and “may not” to avoid 100% confidence. The author realizes that there is always room for discussion or error in science, and so it’s best to not state every claim with 100% confidence.
- **How and where does the author use self-reference or metadiscourse (e.g. “we will explain” or “as stated in the previous section?”)**
 - Self-reference is infrequent throughout the IMRaD. The reading is matter-of-fact, only explaining the study with little to no acknowledgement of the paper itself. However, there are sections where self-referencing is used, like when the author points out how all the tables and charts were created in Excel, or the Acknowledgements section at the end.
- **How formal or informal is the tone? What causes that level of formality?**

- The tone of the IMRaD is formal. The author makes sure to have as little of a “voice” as possible by using passive voice and an academic vocabulary. No contractions or slang is used.
- **Does the author use idiomatic expressions?**
 - No. Once again, the tone of the IMRaD is formal and matter-of-fact. Use of idiomatic expression would create an individual voice, which is what the author is trying to avoid.