**USEFUL PHRASES FOR ACADEMIC WRITING**

1. **Abstract**

* The paper/article:
* discusses/deals with/analyses/considers/explains/describes/establishes/introduces …..
* develops/presents/provides/studies/represents/features/contains/concentrates on …..
* covers/suggests/proposes/shows …..
* demonstrates the feasibility of …..
* opens up a new field/issue
* gives/aims to give a comprehensive account of …..
* offers a solution to …..
* serves as an introduction to …..
* The main objective/goal/purpose of the paper/article is …..
* This paper presents a novel method of ….. /In this paper, a novel method of ….. is presented

1. **Introduction**

*2.1. Problem background, state of the art*

* ….. plays an important/vital role in …..
* ….. is an important issue for …..
* ….. is extensively/widely used in …..
* ….. is a very effective method for …..
* In the last few years there has been a growing interest in …..
* Quite recently, considerable attention has been paid to …..
* ….. have/has been gaining importance in recent years …..
* ….. have/has been utilized in many applications such as …..

2.2*. Literature review/Summary of previous research*

- Referring to the sources in general

* Current research on ….. is focused on …..
* Previous studies indicate that …..
* The literature on ….. shows a variety of approaches
* Much research on ….. has been done.
* The focus of recent research has been on …..
* ….. has/have been widely researched/investigated.
* In recent years, research on/into ….. has become very popular.
* In the last decade ….. has attracted much attention from research teams …..
* For several years great effort has been devoted to the study of …..
* Several publications have appeared in recent years documenting …..
* Previous research has documented/shown/demonstrated that …..
* To solve this problem/issue, many researchers have proposed various methods of (+-ing)
* In the literature, several theories have been proposed to explain …..

- Limitations of previous research:

* A number of questions regarding \_\_ remain to be addressed.
* A closer look to the literature on \_\_, however, reveals a number of gaps and shortcomings.
* This question has previously never been addressed because\_\_
* Most studies have relied on \_\_
* Previous studies by \_\_ cannot be considered as conclusive because \_\_
* Previous studies have almost exclusively focused on \_\_
* This has been previously assessed only to a very limited extent because \_\_
* In the present studies \_\_ were constrained to \_\_
* In previous studies were limited to \_\_
* Although results appear consistent with prior research, they appear inconsistent with \_\_
* These are previously unstudied because \_\_
* As far as we know, no previous research has investigated \_\_
* Moreover, although research has illuminated \_\_ no study to date has examined \_\_
* Despite decades of research, this continues to be debated among \_\_
* This section points out some of the problems encountered in the extant research.
* Although there are many studies, the research in \_\_ remains limited.
* However, the existing research has many problems in representing \_\_
* The literature on \_\_ is less consistent
* Historically, there has been a great deal of confusion in the literature regarding \_\_
* This approach remains briefly addressed in the literature.
* These are rarely analyzed in the literature as \_\_
* There are key questions and notions that are still not discussed in the literature \_\_
* This is not clearly presented in the literature because \_\_
* This paper addresses the need for \_\_, so far lacking in the scientific literature.
* To fill this literature gap, this paper identifies \_\_
* Only a few works in literature demonstrate \_\_
* Although studies have been conducted by many authors, this problem is still insufficiently explored.
* To our knowledge, no prior studies have examined \_\_
* However, the existing research has many problems in \_\_
* Therefore, important issue in the literature is \_\_
* However, we argue that previous literature suffers from certain weaknesses: \_\_
* Previous research can only be considered a first step towards a more profound understanding of \_\_
* The previous studies reveal that \_\_ are usually the most problematic to \_\_

- Referring to individual authors

* ….. and …. are discussed in [3] and [6].
* X [4] and Y [3] indicate that …..
* X et al. [1] argue that …..
* One of the first examples of ….. is presented in [2].
* Another/The latest solution is described in [3].
* The results obtained/offered by X in [5] suggest that …..
* Recently, several authors [4], [5], [7] have proposed (a new theory) …..

*2.3. Problem statement, purpose/main objective of the paper*

* (A ….. theory of ….. ) has recently been presented in [..…]. However, several practical questions arise when dealing with .….: 1) It is important to (identify …..). 2) It is key to (predict …..). 3. It is crucial to (establish when …..). To answer all these questions, we presentan original approach which ….. .
* Even though (the efficiency of …..) has been improved in recent years, most improvements have been achieved by (minimizing the amount of energy lost in …..). Nonetheless, it is possible to further improve (the efficiency by …..). With this goal, this work (explores, seeks to …..).
* Based on the approach presented in [3], the purpose of this paper is to ….
* In this paper, while we refer to our earlier work [2], [3], and [4], the focus is different.
* Like most authors, we …..
* The objective/aim of this paper/study is to propose …..
* The paper presents/proposes a new approach to …..
* This article introduces a new type of …..
* In this study, a new technique that improves ….. is suggested.

*2.4. Framework of the paper (usually the last part of the Introduction)*

* The remainder of the paper is organized as follows/into ….. sections: Section II describes/outlines ….., Section III discusses/analyses ….. . (Experimental results) are presented in Section IV; Section V concludes the paper.
* In Section II, ….. will be discussed. Section III is devoted to ….. . Section IV presents (the experimental results). The conclusion is reported in Section V.
* The proposed (design) is discussed in Section II (The implementation of the proposed design) is presented in Section III. Section IV shows (the experimental results of …..). Finally, Section V concludes with a summary.
* In Section II we explain ….. . In Section III we introduce our ….. . The measurements are presented in Section IV. Section V summarizes the results of this work and draws conclusions.

1. **Materials and Methods**

*3.1. Experimental setup*

* This experimental design was employed because \_\_
* In the course of the experiment, \_\_ played an important role.
* The experiments were performed with \_\_
* This was experimentally investigated by \_\_
* Most experiments have been carried out with \_\_
* Prior to each experiment \_\_
* The experiments are completely based on \_\_
* In this experiment, we introduced a \_\_

*3.2. Data collection:*

* There were \_\_ participants in this sample.
* Participants first provided informed consent about \_\_
* For this study, we analyzed the data collected from \_\_
* The analyzed data included: \_\_
* The procedures of handling the data followed the suggestions of \_\_
* Subsequently, \_\_ were then used to elicit further data.
* The experimental data on \_\_ is very scarce.
* This study used different data collection methods such as \_\_
* The sample was heterogeneous with respect to \_\_
* The sample size in this study was not considered large enough for\_\_
* The sample of respondents included \_\_
* The sample strategy was the same as for\_\_

*3.3. Data analysis*

* We used an established technique, namely \_\_, to analyse \_\_
* To investigate this statistically, we calculated \_\_
* Our data suggest that \_\_ which may be based partly on \_\_
* Data also revealed a significant \_\_
* Our data also address the \_\_
* Data were analyzed and correlated with \_\_
* The data are presented in Table \_\_
* We undertake the empirical analysis using data collected in \_\_
* The data is analyzed from different points of view such as \_\_
* The data reveals significant differences in \_\_
* Thus, the data supports the premise that \_\_
* Results provides a good fit to the data \_\_

*3.4. Statistical testing*

* We explored these effects statistically by \_\_
* Statistical analyses was performed by using the \_\_ applying a significance level of \_\_
* The results were statistically significant when compared using \_\_
* This was normally distributed throughout the study population.
* This distribution resulted in \_\_
* We used \_\_ statistics to report \_\_
* This had a statistically significant impact on \_\_
* The correlation between \_\_ and \_\_ is positive and statistically significant at \_\_
* We calculate \_\_ statistic to test the null hypothesis that \_\_
* As shown in Table \_\_ are statistically significant at all levels.
* We can clearly see that the estimated values are positive and statistically significant at \_\_
* This revealed no statistical differences on \_\_
* The test for \_\_ found no significant differences.
* Our results show a statistically significant improvement in \_\_

1. **Results**

*4.1. Reporting results from questionnaires and interviews*

* Of the study population / initial sample / initial cohort, 90 subjects completed and returned the
* questionnaire.
* The response rate was 70% at / after / for the first six months and …
* The majority of respondents / those who responded felt that ….
* Over half / Sixty per cent of those surveyed / questioned reported that …
* A small minority of / Hardly any / Very few participants (4%) indicated …
* In response to Question 1, most / nearly all / the majority of those surveyed indicated that …
* When the subjects were asked about / questioned on X the majority commented that ….
* The overall response to this question was surprisingly / unexpectedly / very / quite negative.

*4.2. Stating what you found*

* These tests revealed / showed / highlighted that …
* Strong / Some / No evidence of X was found …
* Interestingly / Surprisingly / Unexpectedly, for high values of X, Y was found ..
* There was a significant positive / no correlation between …
* On average / Generally speaking / Broadly speaking, we found values for X of …
* Further analysis / analyses / tests / examinations / replications showed that …

*4.3. Stating what you did not find*

* No significant difference / correlation was found / identified / revealed / detected / observed /
* highlighted between ….
* There were no significant differences between X and Y in terms of Z / with regard to Z / as far as Z is
* concerned.
* The analysis did not show / reveal / identify / confirm any significant differences between …
* None of these differences were / Non one of these differences was statistically significant.

*4.4. Highlighting significant results and achievements*

* The most striking / remarkable result to emerge from the data is that …
* Interestingly / Curiously / Remarkably / Inexplicably, this correlation is related to ….
* The correlation between X and Y is interesting / of interest / worth mentioning because …
* The most surprising / remarkable / intriguing correlation is with the …
* It is interesting / critical / crucial / important / fundamental to note that …
* Our technique shows a clear / clearly has an advantage over …
* This underlines / highlights / stresses / proves / demonstrates just how important X is.
* This finding confirms / points to / highlights / reinforces / validates the usefulness of X as a …
* Our study provides additional support for / further evidence for / considerable insight into X.
* These results extend / further / widen our knowledge of X.
* These results offer compelling / indisputable / crucial / overwhelming / unique / vital evidence for …

*4.5. Stating that your results confirm previous evidence*

* Our experiments confirm / are in line with / are consistent with previous results [Wiley2009].
* The values are barely / scarcely / hardly distinguishable from [Li 2010] who …
* This value has been found to be / is typical of X.
* This is in good agreement / in complete agreement / consistent with …
* This fits / matches / concurs well with [65] and also confirms our previous findings [39, 40,41].
* This confirms / supports / lends support to / substantiates previous findings in the literature …
* These values correlate satisfactorily / fairly well with Svenson [2009] and further support the idea of …
* As proposed / suggested / indicated / put forward by Dong [2011], the evidence we found points to …

*4.6. Stating that your results are in contrast with previous evidence*

* It was found that X = 2, whereas / on the other hand Kamatchi [2011] found that …
* We found much higher values for X than / with respect to those reported by Pandey [2000].
* Although / Despite the fact that Li and Mithran [2014] found that X = 2 we found that X = 3.
* In contrast to / contradiction with earlier findings [Castenas, 2009], we …
* This study has not confirmed previous research on X. However / Despite this, it serves to …
* Even though these results differ from some earlier studies (Cossu, 2001;Triana, 2002), they are consistent with…
* Although our results differ slightly / to some extent / considerably from those of Erturk [2007] and Hayk [2014]…
* These findings refute / disprove / are in contradiction with / contrast with / significantly differ from
* previous results reported in the literature.

*4.7. Stating and justifying the acceptability of your results*

* As expected / anticipated / hypothesized, our experiments show / demonstrate /prove that …
* Our formula captures / reproduces the response of …
* Apart from this slight discordance / disagreement / non-alignment, the result is confirmation of …
* Despite / Notwithstanding the lack of agreement, we believe our findings compare well with …
* Although / Even though / Despite the fact that there was some inconsistency …
* There is satisfactory / good / exceptional / perfect agreement between …
* No significant / substantial / appreciable / noteworthy differences were found …
* Our findings appear to be well substantiated / supported by …

1. **Discussion**

*5.1. Stating the main objective*

* In this paper we propose/examine/study …..
* This paper proposes/has proposed …..
* The purpose of the paper/study is to …..
* The paper presents/has presented several solutions to …..
* This paper is a modest contribution to the ongoing discussions about/on …..
* It was the main purpose of the paper to draw attention to …..
* The main concern of the paper was to …..
* In our paper, the focus of attention was/is on …..
* This study shows/has shown that …..
* This experiment/technique/demonstrates that …..

*5.2. Specifying the objective*

* Particular attention is paid to …..
* The author´s attention was focused/concentrated not only on ….. but also on …..
* We have addressed not only ….. but also …..
* We have also considered the consequences of …..
  + Pointing out the originality of the solution
* Our paper presents an innovative/a novel view of …..
* The originality of our solution lies in the fact that …..
* This is a novel solution to …..
* Our results describe for the first time the …..
* To our knowledge, this is the first study to deal with/examine/investigate …..
* Only one other study, to our knowledge, has come up with …..
* This paper presents a pilot study to find the answer to …..
* Our observations that ….. are not new, but …..

*5.3. Interpreting the facts*

* The data obtained is/are broadly consistent with the major trends …..
* These results agree/concur/are consistent/are in good agreement with other studies which
* have shown that …..
* In contrast to some reports in the literature, there were …..
* An important implication of these findings is that …..
* The finding was quite unexpected/surprising and suggests that …..
* The most likely explanation of the negative result is …..
* The findings have a number of possible limitations, namely …..
* So far, the significance of this finding is not clear.
  1. *Stating the limitations of the research*
* The main limitation of the experimental result is …..
* One question still unanswered is whether …..
* The analysis does not enable us to determine …..
* These results are not conclusive.
* “There may be some possible limitations in this study.”
* “The findings of this study have to be seen in light of some limitations.”
* “The first is the…The second limitation concerns the…”
* “The empirical results reported herein should be considered in the light of some limitations.”
* “This research, however, is subject to several limitations.”
* “The primary limitation to the generalization of these results is…”
* “Nonetheless, these results must be interpreted with caution and a number of limitations should be borne in mind.”
* “As with the majority of studies, the design of the current study is subject to limitations.”
* “There are two major limitations in this study that could be addressed in future research. First, the study focused on …. Second ….”

**6. Conclusion**

*6.1.* *Drawing conclusions*

* From the research that has been carried out/done/conducted, it is possible to conclude that …..
* Based on the results, it can be concluded that the research into ….. has been very successful.
* From the outcome of our investigation it is possible to conclude that …..
* The findings of our research are quite convincing, and thus the following conclusions can be drawn: …..
* In conclusion, it is evident that this study has shown …..
* This paper has clearly shown that …..
* It has been demonstrated/shown/found that …..
* The results/data obtained indicate/have indicated/suggest/show that …..
* The existence of (these effects ) implies that …..

*6.2. Suggesting possible application(s)*

* The proposed method can be readily used in practice.
* The technique/approach/result is applicable to …..
* ….. can be successfully used for a number of ….. applications.
* The/our ….. has great potential for other applications such as …..
* This research was concerned with …..; however, the results should be applicable also to …..
* The findings suggest that this approach could also be useful for …..

*6.3. Suggesting further research*

* In our future research we intend to concentrate on …..
* Future work will involve …..
* On the basis of the promising findings presented in this paper, work on the remaining issues
* is continuing and will be presented in future papers.
* The next stage of our research will be (experimental confirmation of our theory).
* Further study of the issue would be of interest.
* Clearly, further research will be needed/required to prove/validate …..
* Several other questions remain to be addressed/resolved.
* More research into ….. is still necessary before obtaining a definitive answer to …..
* Further study of the issue is still required.
* Further research on/into ….. is desirable/necessary (to extend our knowledge of) …..

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