
Basics of an Abstract

What is an Abstract? (Written After the Completion of Investigation)

- A short summary of the experiment (250 words or less) as to WHAT WAS DONE.
- Use the PAST TENSE! Make sure the method is in the PAST TENSE!!!
- Submit the Official Abstract/Certification Form on-line with Scienteer on www.scienteer.com Login under "Student Account". A copy of the Official Abstract/Certification form is found on The ARASE www.arase.org and the SSP Website: www.societyforscience.org. Click on "Student Science" and go to Intel ISEF under "Forms".
- Follow instructions. Proof-read carefully before submitting. Be sure to save it.
- Check for spelling errors and sentence structure. The Abstract is the first thing judges read.

The Official Abstract and Certification Form (250 words or less)

Header (top box):

First, type Title of project. Then type student's name on second line.

The last line should have the School Name, City and State and Country.

Team projects need both team members' names

Body (bottom box):

- Single space. Use 11 or 12 pt. type font. Use the PAST TENSE. It is a summary.
- Start typing **right under** Header. Indent or start at the left margin. DO NOT type the title "Abstract". It is already on the form!!!
- Body should be written in paragraph form and NOT outlined. Include a **brief introduction** (rationale, purpose/problem/ goal and hypothesis).
- Give a brief procedure in the PAST TENSE and results (discussion of data).
- End with a **conclusion referring** to the question, **problem** or hypothesis (if stated).
- A Practical Application of study may be included.
- Remember that the Body is written in the PAST TENSE (WHAT WAS DONE!!!).
- Do not mention names of individuals or institutions!!!
- **Category:** Place an "X" in the category column on the right side of the form.
- **Questions:** Answer the 6 questions below the Body Box where applicable.
- **NOTE:** SAVE, SUBMIT, and PRINT a copy of the approved Abstract with SRC Stamp for the display board. Print at least 10 of the stamped abstract for judges.

What NOT to Do

- DO NOT mention names of individuals, institutions, companies, etc.
- DO NOT staple, cut and paste or handwrite on the Official Abstract Form.
- DO NOT describe previous year's work.
- DO NOT use PRESENT TENSE, especially in the Procedure!

Note. A stamped abstract with the approval stamp clears the student with SRC and can set-up the display. ONLY the stamped Abstract can be mounted on the UPPER LEFT SIDE of the display board or it can be vertically standing on the exhibit table or secured to the front edge of the exhibit table.