Writing Lay Summaries

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Why

- Helps with knowledge translation
  - Dissemination to team knowledge users
  - Broad dissemination funders, potential knowledge users
  - Public accessibility
  - For media release

Research alert versus lay summary

	Research Alert	Lay Summary
Delivery	Social media, news media; news piece, blog	Print or electronic
How brief	VERY BRIEF- Character limit e.g. twitter or headline;	BRIEF - 1 page
Content	Key findings of a study or focus of a new grant/project or team	A brief lay accurate summary of who, what, how and key findings of a (single) research study
Goal	Awareness	Sharing specific research findings
Target audience	1. General public 2. Study participants, relevant end-users and decision makers	1. Study participants, relevant end-users and decision makers 2. General public

Western Health Sciences
@westernuFHS

New 📄 asks: How did Dr. Audrey Holland revolutionize the assessment of adult language and cognitive-communication disorders?
doi.org/10.1055/s-0044...

1:14 PM · Oct 10, 2024 · **10** Views
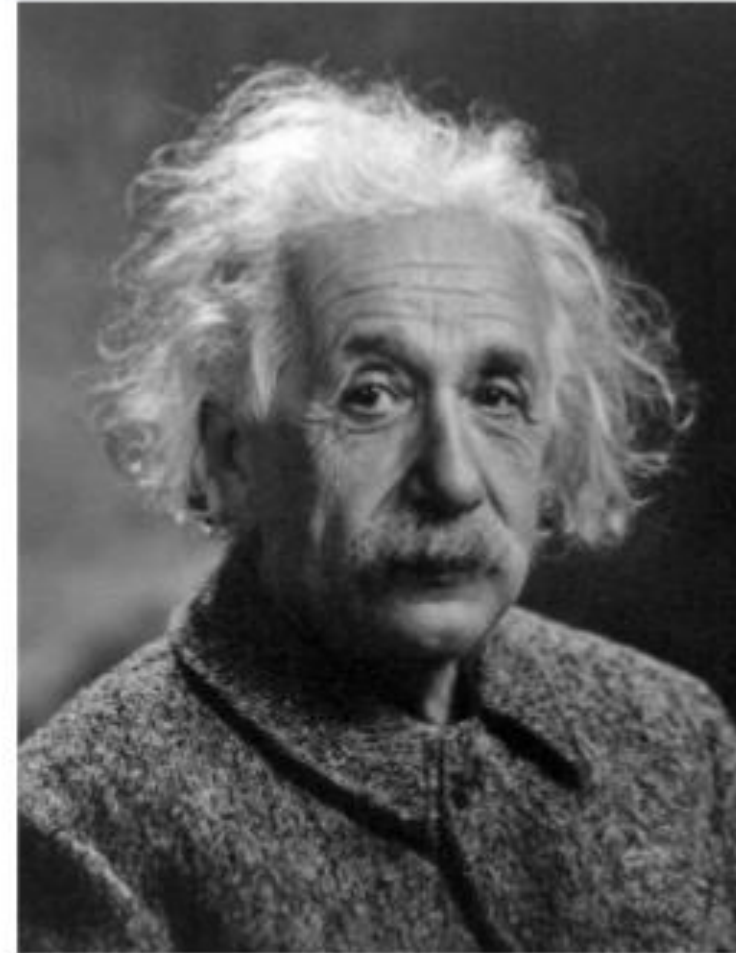
Western University @WesternU · Oct 8
In this front-page story, the @TorontoStar profiled a team of #WesternU researchers uncovering the stories of those buried in an unmarked section of an Ingersoll cemetery. It's part of a quest to restore dignity to some of Ontario's forgotten. @cwilliamg

When they died, they were buried without a marker. Inside the quest to restore...
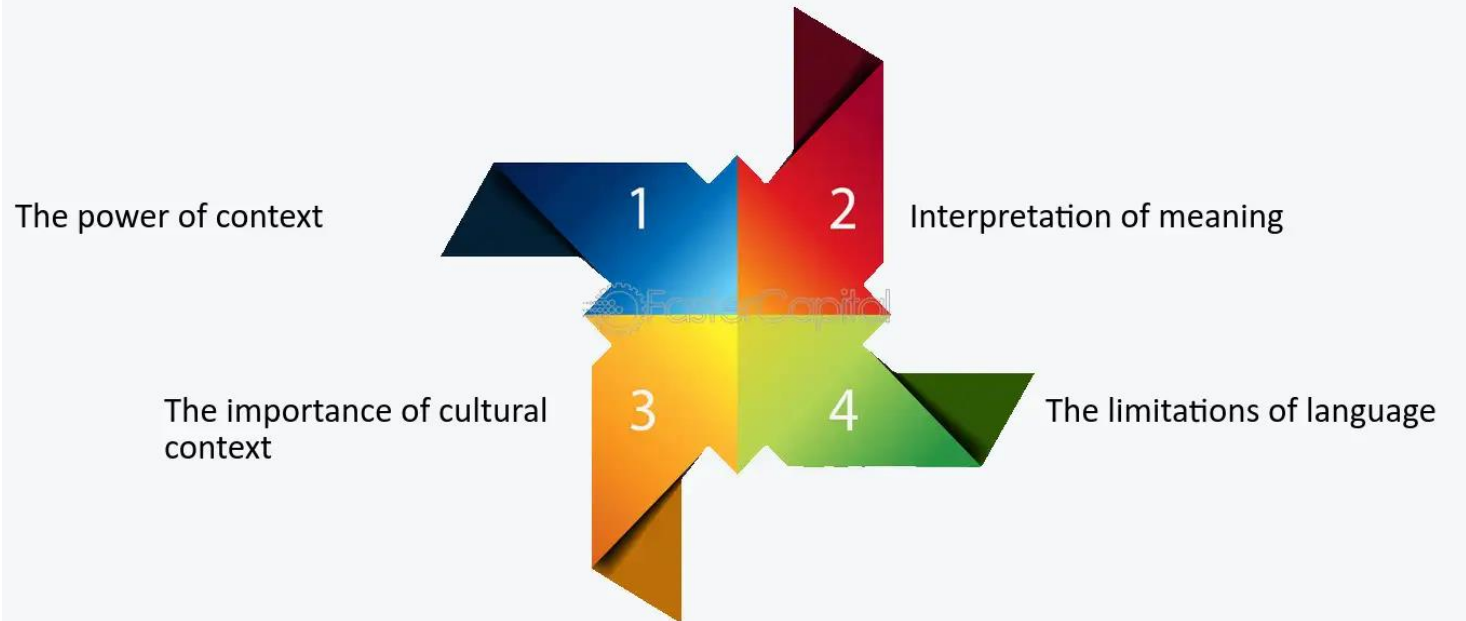
Western

Basic rules for better (lay) writing

1. Write simply and clearly.
2. Be concise.
3. Write in the active voice.
4. Avoid abbreviations and jargon.
5. Prefer the concrete and specific to the general and abstract.
6. Use short words and sentences.
7. Don't sacrifice accuracy to achieve simplicity
8. Ensure Itis reviewed and edited by target audience
9. Use graphics for interest and clarity
10. Consider branding and links to primary resources

Think about your words

Stop. Think. YOUR WORDS MATTER
Expect Respect: Inclusive Language Campaign.
University of Michigan

The Role of Context in Language

The power of context   1   2   Interpretation of meaning

The importance of cultural   3   4   The limitations of language
context

ROTH | McFARLANE
HAND & UPPER LIMB CENTRE
RESEARCH LABS

Western

FIREWELL

Research Summary

Insert research article title

We wanted to know : write the research question in simple direct fashion.

What is the problem?

Write a few sentences about the background that is important to this work. What is the problem? What is the gap? How will the information be used?

Insert your own graphic as per above, and picture/graphic

Remember these will potentially be printed off as PDFs by interested knowledge users and so should only be on one page, should have some space, overall visual appeal

How did the team study the problem?

This is a lay version of your methods. It may include a lay description of the overall research approach. It should identify who participated in the research and what research measurements or procedures were used in a way that is not technical. What analyses were used to address the question?

What did the team find?

A lay version of the results should state the main findings in a non-technical way, and any overall conclusion.

How can this research be used?

This should briefly state how the results could be applied in practice? Ideally knowledge users should be consulted, involved in writing and/or approve of application statements.

Cautions

This section is very important since individual research studies have limitations and anyone study may not provide a definitive answer on a question. It is important to point out both limitations in the study such as who the results might not apply to (generalizability) or important issues that were not measured. It may also need to make a statement about whether these findings are ready to be more broadly implemented.

Reference: give the actual citations so that your paper can be tracked down for those who want the full scientific version

Funding Sources: identify funding source if applicable

Insert research article title

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Components

Logo

Title

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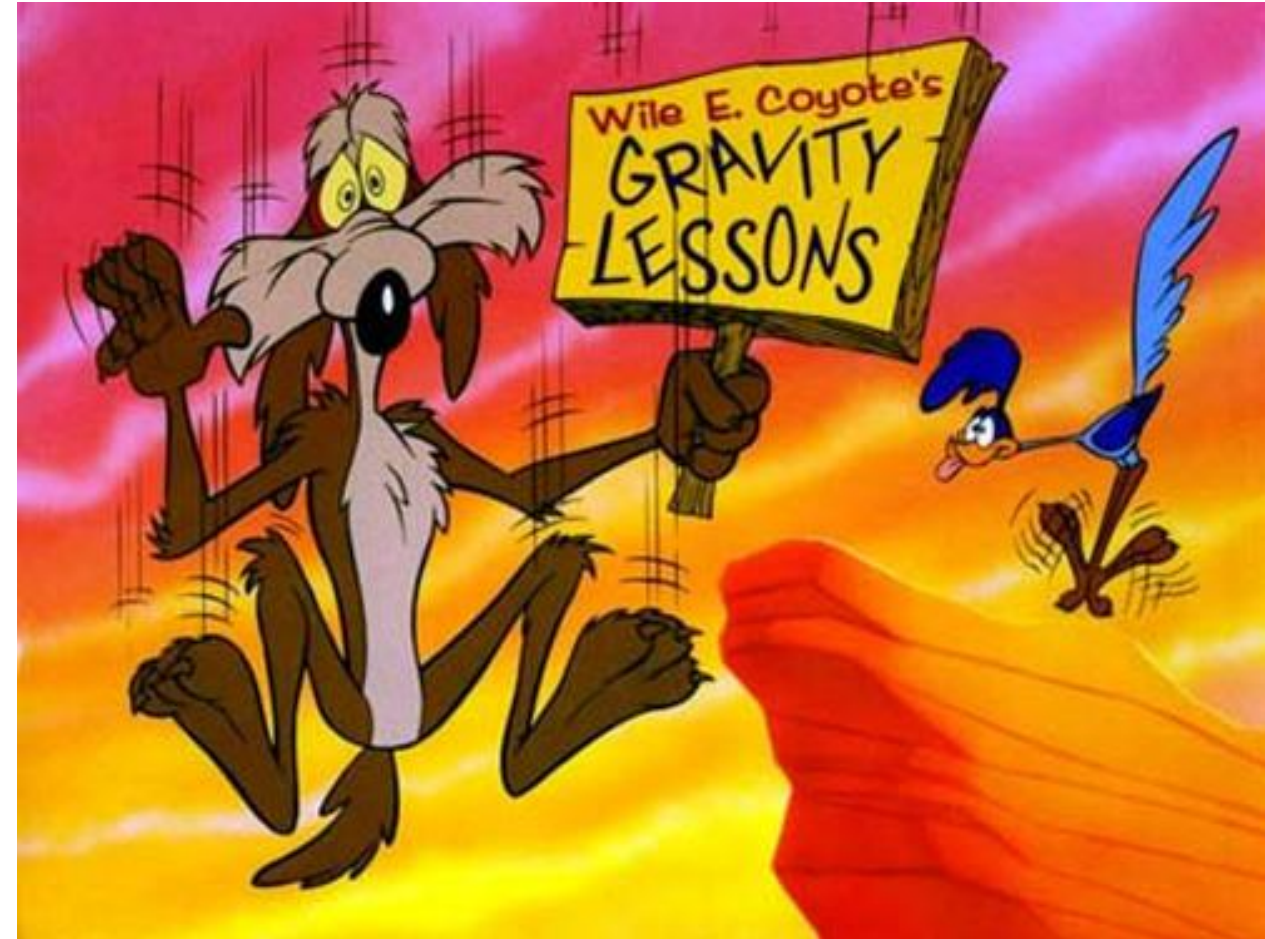
How can this research be used?

Cautions

Reference

Funder

Link

Western

ROTH | McFARLANE
HAND & UPPER LIMB CENTRE
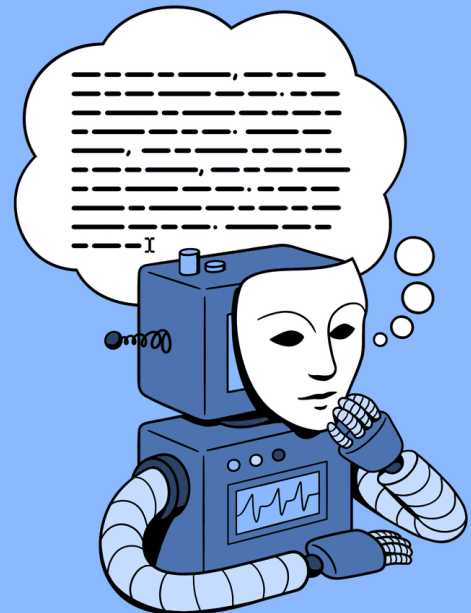
Common cautions

- Generalizability
  - E.g. men and women
  - Local population
- Flaws in method/process
  -
- ONE study
  - Not The Whole Answer To The Patent Question

Mild __exposure__ to CO can result in accumulated __damage__ over time. Extreme __exposure__ to CO may rapidly be fatal without producing significant warning symptoms.

= Using a generator indoors CAN KILL YOU IN MINUTES

- Interest from the KMob Alerts
- Consulted with James Shelley can we use this approach but maintain the parameters of our template and approach

- STEPS
1. AI initial draft (using template headings)
2. AI generated graphic/picture
3. Scientific review
4. Stakeholder review
5. Finalize

Large Language Model (LLM)

[ˈlärj ˈlaŋ-gwij ˈmä-dᵊl]

A deep learning algorithm that's equipped to summarize, translate, predict, and generate human-sounding text to convey ideas and concepts.

Applications of Language Models in AI

1 Powering Chatbots and Voicebots
2 Retrieving Relevant Information
3 Analysing Big Data
4 Engaging Customers
5 Providing Tailored Solutions