

Exercise B4, 10/12/04

Module B Paper Draft 1: Human Mind

Task: Write the first draft of your Module B Paper (individual paper) on a topic of your choice about the human mind. There will be one more revision (Exercise B6) after you receive feedback from the instructor.

Topic selection: You must choose a topic different from your Module A paper and the one for your project paper in Modules C-D (this may still be tentative, though). For example, you can write a paper based on your group research. You can discuss the entire group research or focus on your (or someone else’s) component. In either case, if multiple members of your group do this, your papers must be substantially different. Another possibility is to write about one of your research questions identified in Exercise A6. In this case, you may need to spend more time on doing research.

Foci and suggestions

1. Identify a practical problem.
2. Clearly identify your research question/problem and its cost/significance (note that the cost and significance are the two sides of the same thing; you only need to pick one).
 - Try to narrow down your research question/problem so that your response is as full as possible. For example, instead of asking “why does my cat massage this stuffed dog?” (an answer might be “because ...”), you could ask “does my cat massage this stuffed dog because she is insane?” (an answer might be “no, ...”). In general, *why* and *how* questions are more “loaded.” On the contrary, *yes-no* questions are more specific in that the question itself contains more information.
 - When you discuss the cost/significance, explain why responding to your research question/problem could lead to a solution to the practical problem.
3. Follow the research-paper organization introduced in Module A. A sample pattern is included on the back of this sheet. Note that you can deviate from the style *only if* you can convince the instructor that your approach is more effective (check in advance).
4. Try to make your response to the research question/problem logical and convincing.
5. Include a list of references and cite them in your paper. You can use any standard citation/reference format, e.g., MLA, APA.

Instructions/Notes:

1. Follow the general take-home exercise guidelines (as in Module A). _____
2. Target around 4-5 pages (ok, if it’s a little shorter/longer). Include page numbers. _____
3. If you worked in a group (not necessarily the designated group) for this exercise, list the names of the group members.

Survey: Time spent between classes: _____

// End

Sample Organization and Guidelines

- Replace the *italicized* parts with your own words
- You may have one or more middle sections (the example below is with two of them).
- Critically think why this pattern might (or might not) work, esp. in connection to your group research presentation. Consult *The Craft of Research* for more details (want to exceed?). This is a good point to reflect in your supporting notes.

paper title

1. Introduction

background [Describe a **practical** problem to which you want to draw the attention of the reader. Also try to set the context so that the reader can easily understand the description of your research question/problem in the following paragraph.]

problem and cost/significance [Before writing this paragraph, identify one sentence describing your **research** question/problem and another describing the cost *or* significance (you need just one because these are the opposite sides of the same idea). Remember that the cost/significance should explain how your response (answer) to the research question/problem could lead to a solution (action) to the practical problem introduced in the above paragraph. Write a short paragraph based on these two sentences.]

response [Provide a brief **preview** of your response. Not too much, just enough for the reader to get interested and get the big picture about your ideas.]

2. *some descriptive section title*

detailed response [Try to be logical and convincing (Performance Goal 5d).]

3. *some descriptive section title*

detailed response [Try to be logical and convincing (Performance Goal 5d).]

4. Conclusion

results [Concisely **summarize** the response to your research question/problem. At this point, you can assume that the reader has read all the details. Thus, you must be able to write this part differently from the third paragraph in Introduction.]

significance [Re-iterate the significance in connection to the practical problem. Try to phrase this differently from the second paragraph of the Introduction.]

future [Open up the possibility for further applications of your research, more in-depth research, related questions, etc.]

References (or Bibliography)

[Try to use some standard format, e.g., MLA, APA, etc. The bottom line is as follows. For book/article, you need: author, title, source (publisher or journal), and year. For a web site, the web address (URL), author, title, and date (depending on the availability of the information).]