

9.63 Laboratory in Cognitive Science (Fall 2005)

III - Short and Long Articles

For the 3 articles, you will have the opportunity to submit a second version to improve your grade. Submit **2 hardcopies** for each article. All writing must be original, and all papers must be individual (no writings in group).

The versions of your articles are due:

- October, Monday 3: short article corresponding to Project 1 (first version)
- October, Monday 31 : short article corresponding to Project 2 (first version)
- December, Monday, 3rd: long article corresponding to Project 3 (first version)
- December, Wednesday, 14: Second and final version of the long article

Short articles will have a maximum of **1000 words** (including the abstract), corresponding roughly to 4-5 pages, double line spacing, font size 11 or 12.

The long article will have a maximum of **15 pages**, double line spacing, font size 11 or 12, including abstract, figures and tables. References are not included in the 15 pages limit.

Structure of Short and Long Articles

Title

Author Name and Affiliation

Abstract (~ 150-200 words) – cf. CogLab summary for how to write an abstract –

Introduction: A review of the literature and work by others. An introduction shall include:

- The background or motivation for the research
- Explanation concerning how the current study extend or improve upon previous knowledge in this field
- The main predictions of the study.

Hypothesis: A clear description of your theoretical and operational hypotheses.

Method:

- Participants: Number of participants, their age, and other characteristics that are important for the study.
- Apparatus: A description of the equipment used

- **Experimental Procedure:** A description of the exact experimental procedure/method that the participant had to do (e.g. looking at a screen, memorizing a picture, pressing a key, etc) as well as the instructions.
- **Controls:** Sometimes additional control group or experiments need to be performed, to facilitate the interpretation of the main experiment.

Results:

- **Statistical Analysis:** a description of the factors, levels and type of statistical analysis performed, as well as the statistical values/results.
- **Description of the graph(s) and/or table(s)**
- **Interpretation:** discussion of what the results/graphs/tables show, how they stand in regard to the hypothesis, and what we can infer.

Discussion:

- Discussion of the results of the experiment in regard to others data and experiments described in the literature review (Introduction).

Conclusion:

- Further work/hypotheses/ideas related to the research question.

References

Acknowledgments

Author Notes

Collaboration Policy (from the handbook, *Academic Integrity at MIT.*)

“In preparing your reports, you are encouraged to discuss your results with your class mates, Data and Figures may be shared between students in your class group for the purpose of preparing your report (article), providing proper acknowledgments in made in your report (article).”

“All writing [in 9.63] must be original. Students should not copy any portion of their laboratory report (article) from references materials or the reports of other students. Students should not use reports from previous years or their class mate’s reports in preparing their own reports.”