search" (included within “Integration”) provide written activities which allow students to practice and apply the conventions learned to their own research report. Other parts of the book acquaint students with aspects of research such as using the library and proper citation of bibliographical sources.

Although the activities and explanations provide appropriate instruction in elements essential to each part of a paper, the introduction is given inordinate attention (70 pages), particularly compared with treatment of the discussion (24 pages). Hopkins and Dudley-Evans’ (1988) research demonstrates that discussions are the most difficult sections to write because they require writers to (a) construct a complex argument, (b) compare and validate the reported research findings with those of previous research, and (c) present the findings within the larger context of the field while acknowledging the study’s limitations. Nevertheless, this imbalance in treatment does not detract from the usefulness of this thoughtfully constructed text.

References


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