Useful phrases

The lists below offer general phrases that can be used in many kinds of research papers. For mastering the terminology and phraseology specific to a field, regular reading of the relevant literature is necessary.

Note: The numbering below follows the numbering of the parts in the **Guidelines for writing** a paper.

3. Abstract

As **the Abstract** is a short version of the paper, some of the phrases used in the other parts of the paper are also used in the abstract and are not mentioned here. You can find them below under each section of the paper. Some hints on how to start the Abstract follow:

Introductory sentences

The paper/article

discusses/deals with/analyses/considers/explains/describes/establishes/introduces develops/presents/provides/studies/represents/features/contains/concentrates on covers/suggests/proposes/shows

demonstrates the feasibility of

opens up a new field/issue

gives/aims to give a comprehensive account of

offers a solution to

serves as an introduction to

The main objective/goal/purpose of the paper/article is

Common mistakes:

Wrong: Right:

In this paper there/it is presented a novel This paper presents a novel method of

method of In this paper, a novel method of is

presented

4. Sections of the paper

4.1. Introduction

In most cases, **the Introduction** section is treated as a whole and is not divided into subsections. The subheadings below should only help you organize the information.

4.1.1. Problem background, state of the art

- plays an important/vital role in
- is an important issue for
- is extensively/widely used in
- is a very effective method for

In the last few years there has been a growing interest in

Quite recently, considerable attention has been paid to

- have/has been gaining importance in recent years
- have/has been utilized in many applications such as

4.1.2. Literature review/Summary of previous research

- Referring to the sources in general

Current research on is focused on

Previous studies indicate that

The literature on shows a variety of approaches

Much research on has been done.

The focus of recent research has been on

..... has/have been widely researched/investigated.

In recent years, research on/into has become very popular.

In the last decade has attracted much attention from research teams

For several years great effort has been devoted to the study of

Several publications have appeared in recent years documenting

Previous research has documented/shown/demonstrated that

To solve this problem/issue, many researchers have proposed various methods of (+-ing) In the literature, several theories have been proposed to explain

- Referring to individual authors

.... and are discussed in [3] and [6].

X [4] and Y [3] indicate that

X et al. [1] argue that

One of the first examples of is presented in [2].

Another/The latest solution is described in [3].

The results obtained/offered by X in [5] suggest that

Recently, several authors [4], [5], [7] have proposed (a new theory)

X [2] and X [5] have demonstrated that

A/The most interesting approach to this issue has been proposed by [2].

X [6] has also found that However, our researchers have arrived at the conclusion/have concluded that

.... was experimentally measured by [7].

X et al. [7] studied and showed that

X [11] developed a novel sensor using

In this work and in related references it was observed that

In [8] it was shown that

As reported by X [2],

In a recent paper by X [9],

- Saying that little research has been done in a particular field

However, to the author's/authors' best knowledge, very few publications can be found/are available in the literature that discuss/address the issue of

To the author's/authors' knowledge, has/have been scarcely investigated from the point of view of/from the theoretical point of view.

- Pointing out limitations of previous research

A key limitation of this research is that (it does not address the problem of)

The major drawback of this approach is

However, most of the previous studies do not take into account

This approach may not be practical/orthodox/conventional in all situations.

Reference [3] analyses and compares various aspects of Nevertheless, there are still some interesting and relevant problems to be addressed.

However, studies on are still lacking.

The problem with this approach is in that it

4.1.3. Problem statement, purpose/main objective of the paper

- Problem statement and description of the objective of the paper are very specific parts of the paper and the phrases used depend on the nature of the problem. Examples showing how closely this part is related to the literature review and previous research are given below.

(A theory of) has recently been presented in [.....]. However, several practical questions arise when dealing with: 1) It is important to (identify). 2) It is key to (predict). 3. It is crucial to (establish when). To answer all these questions, we present an original approach which

Even though (the efficiency of) has been improved in recent years, most improvements have been achieved by (minimizing the amount of energy lost in). Nonetheless, it is possible to further improve (the efficiency by). With this goal, this work (explores, seeks to).

Based on the approach presented in [3], the purpose of this paper is to

In this paper, while we refer to our earlier work [2], [3], and [4], the focus is different. Like most authors, we

The objective/aim of this paper/study is to propose

The paper presents/proposes a new approach to

This article introduces a new type of

In this paper, we/the authors offer

In this paper, we explore the possibility of

In this study, a new technique that improves is suggested.

See also Abstract, Introductory sentences.

4.1.4. Framework of the paper (usually the last part of the Introduction)

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows/into sections:

Section II describes/outlines, Section III discusses/analyses (Experimental results) are presented in Section IV; Section V concludes the paper.

In Section II, will be discussed. Section III is devoted to Section IV presents (the experimental results). The conclusion is reported in Section V.

The proposed (design) is discussed in Section II (The implementation of the proposed design) is presented in Section III. Section IV shows (the experimental results of). Finally, Section V concludes with a summary.

In Section II we explain In Section III we introduce our The measurements are presented in Section IV. Section V summarizes the results of this work and draws conclusions.

4.2. Body/Core of the paper

General information

The Body of the paper is very specific in its content. For this reason, the number of generally applicable phrases is smaller than in the other parts. Examples of some of these phrases are given below.

There are, however, linguistic means common to all kinds of research papers, i.e. words and phrases expressing cause, results, addition, similarity, etc. For lists and usage of these words

and phrases see A Remedial Course in English Grammar: Clauses and Guidelines for Academic Writing: Text structure.

4.2.1. Materials and Methods/Methods of Approach

- Describing what was done and how it was done

We started by investigating

We designed a new technique for

We used a new approach.

These experiments were carried out to find out

In order to verify the validity of the method, we carried out several experiments.

All the tests/measurements were carried out at room temperature.

The (signals) were measured before and after

To illustrate, a simulation was performed.

The analysis was performed in order to

We checked for the presence of

(The chemical structure of) was examined by (the technique).

A gradual change (in temperature) was observed.

The increase in was not caused by/was not due to a decrease in

The (optimized condition) was obtained from

- Describing numerical methods

The equation that describes is as follows:

Equation (2) represents/defines/expresses

The equation can be written as, where

Thus, the following equation is obtained:

.... can be computed by the following equation:

Equations (5) and (6) approximate (the original formulas).

.... satisfies equation (3).

Equations (2) and (3) demonstrate that

(3) implies that

.... is described by (5).

The function f is given/defined by......

Let f be given/defined by

To simplify (3) we can

For simplicity we ignore the dependence of on

It follows from (3) that

Substituting/inserting (4) and (6a) in(to) (6b), we obtain

Substitution/Insertion of (4) in(to) (5) yields

Now we can derive according to (2)

We can now proceed analogously to

This is true for/This holds for

Similarly, (5) is also valid/true for the following relation.

Assume/Let us assume that (3) holds for

(6) holds under the condition that

We will make the following assumptions:

From now on we assume that

Let us define the following dependence/relation by/as

Let (3) satisfy the following relation

Equality holds in (10) if and only if

The inequality is satisfied if and only if

We shall write the above expression as

In this way we obtain

According to (5) we have/obtain

..... is obtained as/can be obtained as

..... is denoted (M) and defined as

..... takes the form/.... can be written in the form

As is clear from (5,)

We first prove that/Let us first prove that

It remains to prove that

It is clear/evident/obvious that

From this we conclude/see/deduce that

- Referring to/Describing figures, graphs, tables, diagrams

Fig. 2 shows foresents/depicts (outlines fillustrates from recents)

Fig. 2 shows/presents/depicts/outlines/illustrates/represents

Fig. 3 gives an example of

Such cases are depicted in the following figures.

This is illustrated in Fig. 5.

.... is/are shown/given in Figs. 3 and 4.

.... can be found in Fig. 8.

Consider Fig. 2, which plots versus/against

As can be seen from Figs. 5 and 3,

As shown in Fig. 1,

As follows from the figures shown above,

From this figure it can be seen that

For the resulting plot, see Fig. 2.

For visual representation of the dependence the reader is referred to Tables V and VI.

Table II summarizes

The graph/diagram suggests/indicates that

Common mistake

Wrong Right

As shown in the Fig. 1 As shown in Fig. 1
The Fig. 2 presents Fig. 2 presents

See also Guidelines for Presentations, Discussions and Chairing: Slides, graphs, tables, diagrams.

4.2.2. Results

Some of the phrases listed under **Materials and Methods** may also be suitable for the **Results** section, e.g. summarizing what was done, referring to diagrams, graphs, etc.

It has been found that

The results show that

The results thus obtained are compatible with

The overall measurement results are summarized in Table II.

As mentioned earlier/above,

The previous sections have shown that

This method is based on

The method was tested on

The method is an effective way to improve

The analysis and simulation indicate that

The analysis plays a crucial role in

As may be seen below,

We have introduced a new approach to

A similar approach is used for

This approach may fail if/due to

One of the big advantages of (this approach/method) is that

To verify this method, is compared with

The only disadvantage/drawback of such is

There is no evident relationship between and

.... are in good agreement/correspond with

There is a good match between and

To illustrate the result, a simulation of was performed.

The simulation results match the calculations.

The differences in (temperature) result in significant differences in

The decrease/increase in can be contributed to

To overcome/avoid this problem/difficulty, it is necessary to adopt a

One possible solution to this problem is to (use)

This solution requires

4.2.3. Discussion

For more phrases see also Introduction and Conclusion(s).

- Stating the main objective

In this paper we propose/examine/study

This paper proposes/has proposed

The purpose of the paper/study is to

The paper presents/has presented several solutions to

This paper is a modest contribution to the ongoing discussions about/on

It was the main purpose of the paper to draw attention to

The main concern of the paper was to

In our paper, the focus of attention was/is on

This study shows/has shown that

This experiment/technique/demonstrates that

- Specifying the objective

Particular attention is paid to

The author's attention was focused/concentrated not only on but also on

We have addressed not only but also

We have also considered the consequences of

- Pointing out the originality of the solution

Our paper presents an innovative/a novel view of

The originality of our solution lies in the fact that

This is a novel solution to

Our results describe for the first time the

To our knowledge, this is the first study to deal with/examine/investigate

Only one other study, to our knowledge, has come up with

This paper presents a pilot study to find the answer to

Our observations that are not new, but

- Interpreting the facts

The data obtained is/are broadly consistent with the major trends

These results agree/concur/are consistent/are in good agreement with other studies which have shown that

In contrast to some reports in the literature, there were

An important implication of these findings is that

The finding was quite unexpected/surprising and suggests that

The most likely explanation of the negative result is

The findings have a number of possible limitations, namely

So far, the significance of this finding is not clear.

- Stating the limitations of the research

The main limitation of the experimental result is

One question still unanswered is whether

The analysis does not enable us to determine

These results are not conclusive.

- Suggesting possible applications (possible applications are commonly found in the Conclusion(s) section; they may, however, be mentioned in this section, too. For useful phrases see Conclusion(s).

4.2.4. Conclusion(s)

The Conclusion(s) section usually starts with

- Stating the objective

The objective presented in the Conclusion(s) section should agree with the objective stated in the **Introduction**. For suitable phrases see **Introduction** and **Discussion**.

- Drawing conclusions

From the research that has been carried out/done/conducted/performed/undertaken, it is possible to conclude that

Based on the results, it can be concluded that the research into has been very successful. From the outcome of our investigation it is possible to conclude that

The findings of our research are quite convincing, and thus the following conclusions can be drawn:

Summing up the results, it can be concluded that

In conclusion, it is evident that this study has shown

This paper has clearly shown that

It has been demonstrated/shown/found that

The results/data obtained indicate/have indicated/suggest/show that

The existence of (these effects) implies that

- Suggesting possible application(s)

The proposed method can be readily used in practice.

The technique/approach/result is applicable to

..... can be successfully used for a number of applications.

The/our has great potential for other applications such as

This research was concerned with; however, the results should be applicable also to

The findings suggest that this approach could also be useful for

The findings are of direct practical relevance.

- Suggesting further research

In our future research we intend to concentrate on

Future work will involve

On the basis of the promising findings presented in this paper, work on the remaining issues is continuing and will be presented in future papers.

The next stage of our research will be (experimental confirmation of our theory).

Further study of the issue would be of interest.

Clearly, further research will be needed/required to prove/validate

Several other questions remain to be addressed/resolved.

More research into is still necessary before obtaining a definitive answer to

Further study of the issue is still required.

Further research on/into is desirable/necessary (to extend our knowledge of)

Continuing/continued research on/into appears fully justified because

More tests/experiments/calculations will be needed to verify whether

5. Acknowledgement

- Thanking for assistance, acknowledging financial assistance

The authors would like to thank their colleagues/Dr X and Dr Y for

- many useful comments and discussions on
- their valuable insights and recommendations
- their technical assistance
- their contribution in conducting some of the experiments for the research

The authors would like to acknowledge the valuable comments and suggestions of the reviewers, which have improved the quality of this paper.

Fruitful discussions in the early stages of experiments with Professor X are gratefully acknowledged.

The authors wish to acknowledge the assistance and support of

The authors appreciate the efforts and assistance of regarding

The authors' thanks are due to Dr X for kindly granting permission to include Fig. 9.

The authors' thanks are also extended to Dr Y for his support and help in completing the paper.

The author would like to extend his/her thanks to (name of institution) for its support in implementing the project.

The authors gratefully acknowledge the generous financial support of (name of institution). Financial support from the Czech Science Foundation, Grant No., (project topic), is gratefully acknowledged.

- Stating financial support

This rese	arch/work was suppo	orted by the European Re	egional Development Fund and	
٨	Ainistry of Education,	Youth and Sports of the	Czech Republic under Project No	

Argue
a. Along similar lines, [X] argues that
b. There seems to be no compelling reason to argue that
c. As a rebuttal to this point, it could be argued that
d. There are [three] main arguments that can be advanced to support
e. The underlying argument in favor of / against [X] is that
f. [X]'s argument in favor of / against [Y] runs as follows:
Claim
a. In this [paper], I put forward the claim that
b. [X] develops the claim that
c. There is ample / growing support for the claim that
d. [X]'s findings lend support to the claim that
e. Taking a middle-ground position, [X] claims that
Data
a. The data gathered in the [pilot study] suggest that
b. The data appears to suggest that
c. The data yielded by this [study] provide strong / convincing evidence that
d. A closer look at the data indicates that
e. The data generated by [X] are reported in [table 1].
f. The aim of this [section] is to generalize beyond the data and
Debate
a. [X] has encouraged debate on
b. There has been an inconclusive debate about whether
c. The question of whether has caused much debate in [our profession] [over the years].
d. (Much of) the current debate revolves around
Discussion
a. In this section / chapter, the discussion will point to
b. The foregoing discussion implies that
c. For the sake of discussion, I would like to argue that
d. In this study, the question under discussion is
e. In this paper, the discussion centers on
f. [X] lies at the heart of the discussion on
Evidence
a. The available evidence seems to suggest that/ point to
b. On the basis of the evidence currently available, it seems fair to suggest that
c. There is overwhelming evidence for the notion that
d. Further evidence supporting / against [X] may lie in the findings of [Y], who
e. These results provide confirmatory evidence that
Ground
a. I will now summarize the ground covered in this [chapter] by
b. On logical grounds, there is no compelling reason to argue that
c. [X] takes a middle-ground position on [Y] and argues that
d. On these grounds, we can argue that
e. [X]'s views are grounded on the assumption that
Jagua
Issue a. This study is an attempt to address the issue of .
b. In the present study, the issue under scrutiny is
c. The issue of whether is clouded by the fact that
d. To portray the issue in [X]'s terms,
a. To portray the issue in [21] s coints,

e. Given the centrality of this issue to [my claim], I will now f. This [chapter] is concerned with the issue of [how/whether/what]
Literature a. [X] is prominent in the literature on [Y]. b. There is a rapidly growing literature on [X], which indicates that c. The literature shows no consensus on [X], which means that d. The (current) literature on [X] abounds with examples of Premise a. The main theoretical premise behind [X] is that b. [X] and [Y] share an important premise: c. [X] is premised on the assumption that d. The basic premises of [X]'s theory / argument are e. The arguments against [X]'s premise rest on [four] assumptions: Research a. This study draws on research conducted by b. Although there has been relatively little research on / into [X], c. In the last [X] years, [educational] research has provided ample support for the assertion that d. Current research appears / seems to validate the view that e. Research on / into does not support the view that f. Further research in this area may include and
g. Evidence for [X] is borne out by research that shows h. There is insufficient research on / into to draw any firm conclusions about / on
View a. The consensus view seems to be that b. [X] propounds the view that c. Current research (does not) appear(s) to validate such a view. d. There have been dissenters to the view that e. The answer to [X] / The difference between [X] and [Y] is not as clear-cut as popular views might suggest. f. The view that is in line with [common sense]. g. I am not alone in my view that h. [X] puts forward the view that i. [X]'s views rest on the assumption that
• a few studies
• other studies
• a certain study, indicated that
• little attention has been devoted to the impact
• given the lack of critical attention paid to
• there is a divergence between and what they actually do. This divergence
• occurs because
 several schools of thought have emerged
as shown previously
• prior research has suggested

- another factor...
- the underlying concept...
- the likelihood that...
- research indicates...
- what is demonstrated...
- against this backdrop...
- the central issue addressed here is the relationship between...
- the topic of warrants research attention for reasons.
- to answer these questions...
- the present study attempts to crystallize factors which influence by....
- analyzing the relationship between and...
- in examining...
- in order to better understanding...
- a deeper understanding of the process of...
- we illustrate this procedure by...
- we illustrate this procedure by using...
- our contention is that...
- this research builds on existing knowledge in the fields of...
- insights drawn from scholarly literature are supplemented with those from
- it accentuates the realization that...
- the issue is whether or not...
- there is evidence that has a positive affect.
- these arguments suggest...
- given this orientation...
- the same logic underlies...

- briefly...
- also, ...
- still, ...
- yet...
- accordingly...
- initially, it may seem...
- surprisingly, ...
- next....
- in contrast...
- nevertheless...
- as a result...
- hence...
- accordingly...
- respectively...
- as a consequence...
- consequently...
- thus, ...
- therefore, ...
- for this reason...
- because of this...
- in order to...
- in other words...
- to put it in another way...
- that is to say...
- to that end....
- besides, ...
- furthermore, ...
- in addition, ...
- moreover...
- likewise...
- indeed...
- in truth...
- in fact...
- also...
- as well...
- foremost...

- in this context, it is worthwhile to consider...
- in this respect, ...
- in contrast, ...
- a major trait...
- typically, ...
- traditionally, ...
- this leads to...
- generally, ...
- as noted earlier...
- whereas...
- having said that, ...
- by contrast, ...
- by comparison, ...
- then again, ...
- that said, ...
- yet...
- at the same time, ...
- nonetheless, ...
- on the contrary, ...
- after all, ...
- though...
- in contrast...
- nevertheless, ...
- but...
- otherwise...
- notwithstanding...
- conversely, ...
- instead, ...
- rather...
- on one hand...
- on the other hand...
- a clear difference...
- a conflicting viewpoint...
- despite...

- ranking above all others...
- preceding all others...
- moreover...
- furthermore...
- what's more...
- likewise...
- similarly...
- another key thing to remember...
- as well as...
- not only.... but also...
- coupled with...
- initially...
- subsequently...
- not to mention...
- additionally, ...
- in addition, ...
- also, ...
- besides that, ...
- and...
- apart from...
- in addition to...
- such as...
- another...
- besides, ...
- further...
- too...
- then...
- of equal importance...
- equally important...
- another...
- however, ...
- on the other hand, ...
- actually, ...
- a year ago, ...
- for all that, ...

- even so, ...
- for all that...
- still another...
- in another way...
- the antithesis of...
- still...
- and yet...
- of course, ...
- or...
- in spite of this...
- to give a brief example, ...
- to give a simple example, ...
- a case in point...
- such as...
- supposing...
- let us say that...
- some examples are...
- like...
- take this scenario into consideration:...
- imagine this situation:...
- to be specific, ...
- moreover, ...
- furthermore, ...
- just as important...
- similarly, ...
- in the same way...
- significantly...
- notably,
- the key... to take into consideration...
- importantly...
- indeed...
- without a doubt...
- undoubtedly...
- certainly...
- surely...

- strangely enough, ...
- ironically, ...
- though...
- this means...
- due to this issue...
- despite this...
- with this in mind...
- provided that...
- in view of...
- in light...
- nonetheless...
- nevertheless...
- notwithstanding...
- due to a lack of...
- however, there are drawbacks to...
- due to insufficient evidence...
- a comprehensive view of the issue cannot be formed due to...
- since the claims were unsubstantiated...
- since the evidence was not validated...
- according to....the amount of information on this topic is insufficient to...
- for instance, ...
- for example, ...
- on the other hand, ...
- to give an illustration, ...
- demonstrating this...
- illustrating this...
- specifically, ...
- in particular, ...
- some notable examples are...
- some exemplary examples of this are...

- to repeat, ...
- of course...
- by all means...
- make no mistake,...
- ultimately, ... is the greatest ... we have.
- above all, ...
- first and foremost...
- again, ...
- to be sure, ...
- here is a run down of...
- it all boils down to the fact that...
- to get the meat of the issue...
- as was previously stated, ...
- as has been mentioned, ...
- given these points, ...
- as has been noted, ...
- to put it briefly, ...
- consequently, ...
- in consequence, ...
- altogether, ...
- in a word, ...
- in the end, ...
- thus, ...
- as I have shown, ...
- hence, ...
- accordingly, ...
- as a result...
- to tell the truth, ...
- to put it mildly, ...
- in my experience, ...
- as far as I'm concerned, ...
- speaking for myself, ...
- in my opinion, ...
- personally, I think...

- an obvious example of this is...
- in fact, ...
- as a matter of fact, ...
- as I have said, ...
- as have been noted, ...
- as a last note, ...
- conclusive evidence...
- overall...
- in conclusion...
- above all...
- compelling...
- all things considered...
- at last...
- in summary, ...
- to summarize, ...
- to conclude...
- in light of all these...
- on the whole...
- in summation, ...
- to sum up, ...
- in sum, ...
- in short, ...
- in brief, ...
- to repeat, ...
- briefly, ...
- finally, ...
- therefore...
- as I have said...
- as you can see...
- in a nutshell, ...
- to recap, ...
- to give you a digest of...
- to give you a snippet of...
- here is a regurgitation of...
- here is a run through of...

- I would say that...
- I would suggest that...
- I would like to point out that...
- I believe that...
- what I mean is...
- it is unjustifiable to say that...
- to my mind...
- if you ask me...
- to my way of thinking...

- in my view...
- what I think is that...
- as for me...
- for me...
- if you ask me...
- the way I see it...
- as far as I am concerned...
- from my point of view...
- I hold the opinion that...
- my impression is that...
- I consider...
- my conviction is that...
- I am under the impression that...
- speaking personally, ...
- I dare say that...
- I gather that...
- I have no doubt that...
- I hold the view that...
- I believe that...
- as far as I understand...
- as far as I can see...
- in my perception...
- as I see it, ...
- according to me, ...
- I agree with this view/opinion...
- I agree with this point of view, but...