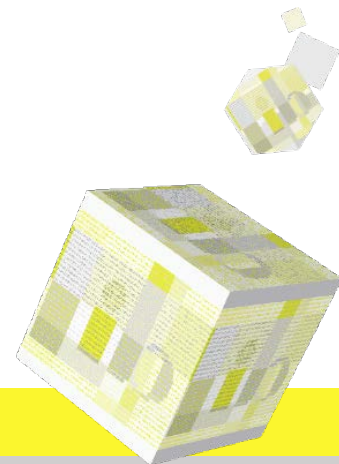
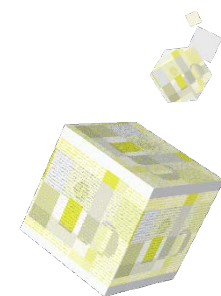


A Comparative Analysis of English Abstracts and Summaries of Chinese Research Articles Indexed by the Taiwan Social Science Citation Index: Arts Education, Sports & Exercise, and Management Journals as Examples

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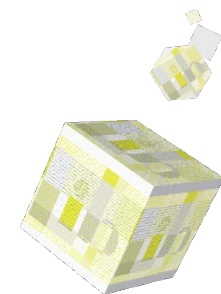


Introduction



- This study aimed at uncovering the structure and components of English abstracts and summaries of Chinese research articles published in three of the six TSSCI-indexed journals that provide both.
- These include:
 - *Research in Arts Education (RAE)*
 - *Sports and Exercise Research (SER)*
 - *NTU Management Review (NTU MR)*

Methods

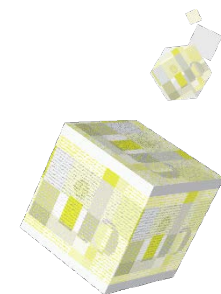


- English abstracts and summaries of Chinese research articles published in *RAE*, *SER*, and *NTU MR* published in 2016 and 2017 were content analyzed.

Journal Titles	N in 2016	N in 2017	Total
RAE	8	8	16
SER	23	25	48
NTU MR	21	23	44
Total	52	56	108

InSight

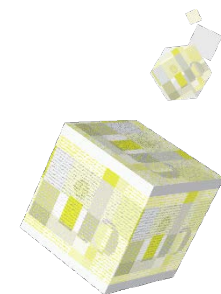
Results



Dimensions/Journal Titles		RAE	SER	NTU MR
Research types	Empirical research	12 (75%)	48 (100%)	42 (95.5%)
	Conceptual discussion	4 (25%)	0	2 (4.5%)
Structuration	Structured	0	48 (100%)	34 (77.3%)
	Unstructured	16 (100%)	0	10 (22.7%)
Visual presentation	With tables and/or figures	1 (6.3%)	22 (45.8%)	3 (6.8%)
	Without tables and/or figures	15 (93.8%)	26 (54.2%)	41 (93.2%)
Citations	With citations	5 (31.3%)	48 (100%)	34 (77.3%)
	Without citations	11 (68.8%)	0	10 (22.7%)

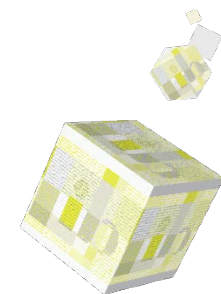


Results



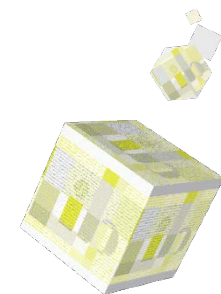
- The most frequently appeared moves and steps in abstracts across three journals include: state purpose(s), summarize individual results, describe subjects, describe the data being collected, practical applications, employ data collection methods, claim the centrality of the topic, and propose a new approach/draw on theories.
- The most frequently appeared moves and steps in summaries across three journals include: state purpose(s), describe subjects, employ data analysis methods/measurements, describe the data being collected, state time frame, summarize results or summarize individual results, employ data collection methods, and practical applications.

Results



- The number of moves and steps appeared in summaries is higher than those appeared in abstracts. “State purpose(s)”, “describe subjects”, and “summarize individual results” were the most frequently appeared steps in abstracts and summaries across three journals.
- Moves and steps that only appeared in summaries include: list research questions, describe expected contributions, literature review: the main body, justify methods/participants, obtain IRB, select data collection site, restate methodology, summarize results, state selected findings, refer to previous literature, and summarize the study.

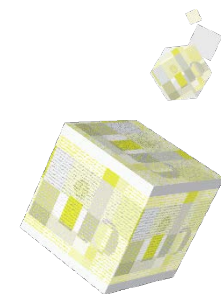
Conclusions



- The types of research that three journals accepted, the maturity of the three disciplines, frequently implemented data collection and analysis methods, are reflected in the structure and composition of English abstracts and summaries.
- With the involvement of the editorial board and strict enforcement of the structured approach, *SER* abstracts and summaries exhibited relative consistent structure and composition.
- In contrast, the editorial board's focus on Chinese research articles, authors' responsibilities in proving their summaries have been edited by native English speakers, the interpretations authors made to the guidelines, and disciplinary norms shaped the diverse configuration of *RAE* and *NTU MR* summaries.

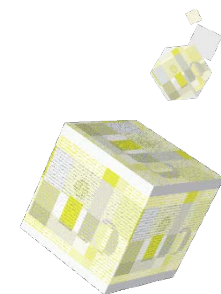


Suggestions



- Providing a consolidated set of guidelines with a good example of English summary probably could achieve better instructional effectiveness.
- Editorial boards should provide clear guidance regarding whether and how authors could choose among different options. Authors could adapt to their unique studies.
- The use of tables and/or figures should be explicitly encouraged.
- This study also suggests editorial boards explicitly state their purposes in providing English summaries, the efforts they have made to have their journals indexed by foreign databases and citation indexes, and what authors could do to contribute.
- Authors should also shoulder responsibilities in promoting their work.

InSight



The End

