

MASTER'S THESIS

A genre analysis study of abstracts in journal research articles

Leung, Hoi Yan

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**A GENRE ANALYSIS STUDY OF ABSTRACTS IN
JOURNAL RESEARCH ARTICLES**

**LEUNG HOI YAN, IRIS
STUDENT NO. 96403403**

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Abstract

The construction of a genre is characterized by the communicative purpose(s) it is intended to fulfill and which also gives it an internal structure. Being regarded as "a miniversion of the paper", the Abstracts of the Journal Research Articles are written in a conventionally expected format. The present paper aims at exploring the discourse pattern and structure of the research article abstracts from three disciplines, namely Applied Linguistics, Business and Physics. The corpus will be examined by investigating the linguistic pattern and features at two levels. On the macro-linguistic level, the pattern of information organization will be investigated whereas on the micro-linguistic level, the lexico-grammatical features will be analyzed. In order to find out the linguistic variations across the three disciplines, the relationship between the linguistic features and the realization of the communicative purposes of different sections in the abstracts will also be discussed. We attempt to analyze the way in which the micro features enhance or achieve the communicative function of each section in the abstracts of each discipline. The findings indicate a consistent choice of both the macro & micro linguistic pattern and features in the abstracts of the three disciplines.

摘要

某一對話樣式構成的特質及其內部結構可從其試圖達到的溝通目的展現出來。期刊內的研究文章均附有以傳統特定表達方式撰寫的摘要。就如一篇「迷你文章」，本文試圖從三個不同學科（應用語言學、商業學及物理學）的摘要，探討其對話形式及結構。就這些摘要（共三十篇），將會從其語言結構及特點兩個層次進行探討。於宏觀語言層次，將會對資料組織的樣式探討；而在微觀語言層次方面，將會對語詞及文化形式進行分析。本文亦對摘要各部分的語言特質及其所表達目的的關係進行探討，從而看出三個科目的文章於語言特質方面的分別。並嘗試分析微形的語言特質方面，從各科目摘要內的各部分分析微形的語言特質及如何構成於各部分的溝通功能。研究結果顯示，於三個學科的摘要在宏觀及微觀的語言結構及特質方面有著頗為一致的選擇。

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