How to Write a Scientific Abstract

Abstracts are essential components of scientific writing. Usually only a paragraph in length, abstracts let your reader know exactly what your research is about before they dive into the details.

1. State the motivation/purpose behind your research and your hypothesis. You may include brief background info.

2. Give an overview of your methods, mentioning the experimental treatments applied.

3. With precision, describe your key findings in one or two sentences.

4. State what is innovative about your findings and how your findings affect the field. What did you conclude based on your findings?

Like all scientific writing, the abstract should be concise and use simple language. After writing your abstract, ask yourself whether you would have a clear understanding of your research if you were another reader.