

Teaching students how to write a literature review

JALT 2021

Saturday, November 13

11:25-12:25



国際大学

INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY OF JAPAN

Presentation Schedule

- Self-introduction
- What is a good “literature review”?
- Demonstration: How to write a good literature review using a matrix

Just a little bit about me...

Michael Mondejar

Assistant Professor

English Language Program

International University of Japan

Academic Writing Courses



Source: www.iuj.ac.jp

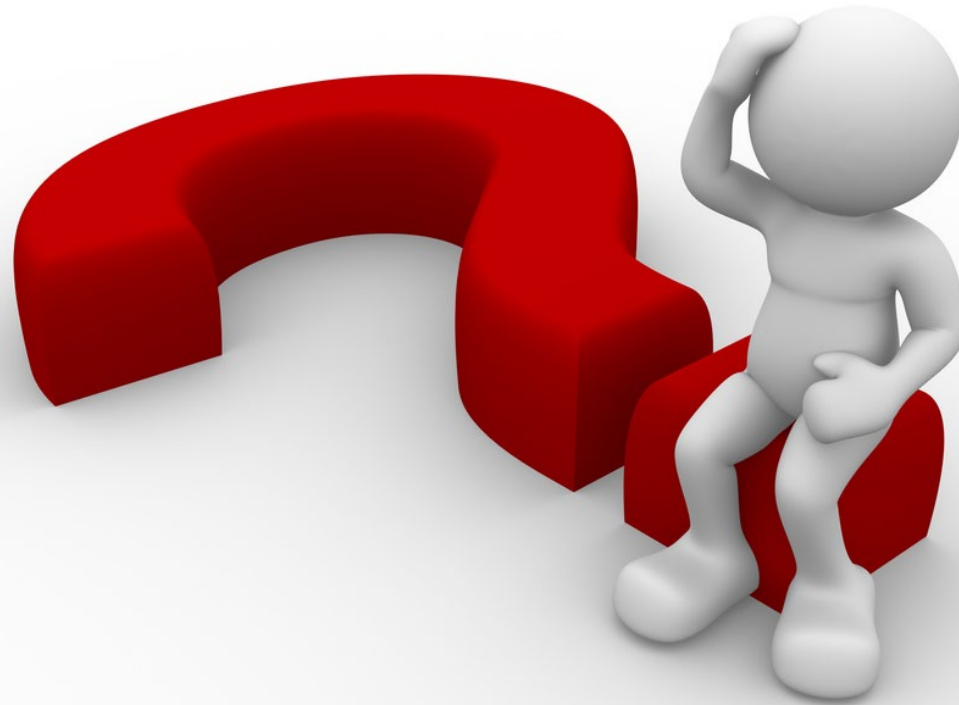
The Literature Review

“A **literature review** is a document or section of a document that collects key sources on a topic and discusses those sources in conversation with each other” (Purdue University, n.d., Para. 1)

Why?

- Acknowledge the **intellectual property rights** of previous authors (Swales & Feak, 2012)
- Give arguments greater **authority** (Swales & Feak, 2012)
- Demonstrate **perceived relevance** to earlier research (Cronin, 2005)
- Inform the research **methodology** (Purdue University, n.d.)

How do you write a literature review?



Source: <https://www.morphict.co.uk/2018/11/20/sign-windows-10/>

Student Example

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NOT a good literature review

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Synthesize, NOT Summarize

Synthesizing research means “drawing connections between sources to create a picture of the scholarly conversation on a topic over time” (Purdue University, n.d., Para. 12).

How?

Build a **Literature Review Matrix**

Building a Literature Review Matrix

After reading and summarizing sources relevant to their research, your students can create a **literature review matrix**.

A literature review matrix is a way to **visually-represent** and **manipulate** important information.

Your students can use a literature review matrix to write an **effective** and **well-structured** literature review.

Literature Review Matrix Demonstration

1. Building a **literature review matrix**:
 - A. **Add** summaries to a database
 - B. **Re-categorize** each piece of information from the summaries
 - C. **Tag** important information that commonly appears in the sources
2. Using the literature review matrix to **write** a sample literature review

Building a Literature Review Matrix

- 1. Add** summaries to a database (e.g., Excel)
 - A) Citation
 - B) Background information
 - C) Key findings
 - D) Commentary
- 2. Re-categorize** each piece of information from the summaries
 - A) Citation > author(s), date
 - B) Background information > objective, data/model, location
 - C) Key findings > primary results, secondary results
 - D) Commentary
- 3. Tag** important information that commonly appears in the sources

Contact Information

Michael Mondejar

Assistant Professor

English Language Program

International University of Japan

mjm2229@iuj.ac.jp

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