Critical Writing and Formatting for Special Education Research

(Associate Professor Dr Aznan Che Ahmad)

CRITICAL WRITING ON DISCUSSION

5.1 Introduction

1. Give an overview introduction of the chapter

Example: This chapter discusses the findings of the study and provides the conclusion of the study….

5.2 Research overview

2. Explained in brief on the RO, theory, research design

5.3 Discussion of RO

5.3.1 <Discussion of RO1, and do the same for each RO>

1. Interpret the findings and summarize the findings of the study

2. evaluate the findings and relate to the objectives of the studies and previous study.

3. Relate with compare (contrast or similar) findings of the study with the findings of previous studies which have been discussed in chapter 2. References should be stated precisely

5.4 Main research objective/aim

1. Each research have it main objective i.e develop a module/ extent a theory etc.

2. Discuss the main findings i.e does the module effective or not etc

5.3 Research Implications

1. Explain the implications of your data/research towards several authorities/theory etc

Example;

5.3.1 Theoretical implications

- advanced a new theory/ support a theory/ improve a theory/ provide new insights/ etc

5.3.2 Practical implication

- applications of new insights derived from the thesis

5.4 Recommendation
1. recommendations of the study can be two types either proposal for action and practice, or recommendations for further studies

2. Provide recommendations (no more than two) for further research

3. DO NOT offer suggestions which could have been easily addressed within the study, as this shows there has been inadequate examinations and interpretation of the data

5.5 Conclusion
1. the conclusion that can be made from all the data obtained

2. generalisation of the RQ or RO of the study

3. Explains the contributions of knowledge and theoretical aspects to the field of study

4. relate the findings to the significance of the study

5.5 Summary
1. Summary of chapter 5

FORMATTING AND FINALIZING RESEARCH

1. Avoid using pronouns (I, we, etc) in the sentences;
Example: "*In the context of this research, I used ……..*"

2. Get/find reference thesis at least one that almost similar with your topic/area.
USM: Through open Athens of USM Library USM e-Thesis Collection (Within USM Net Only)
MYTO: Malaysia Online Thesis
Google: "<title>.etd", *etd* stands for "*electronic thesis dissertation*"
Example: *ADHD among primary school.etd*
By getting thesis references, you will get an idea how academic writing looks like and adapt it into your writing.

3. Invest in any writing/academic workshop to improve and enhance the skills.

4. Advisable to write in form of Global view (what happening worldwide i.e online learning for special needs worldwide), Local view (what happening in Malaysia i.e online learning for special needs in Malaysia) and Context view (what happening in the context of your study i.e online learning in higher education in Malaysia) (GLC)

Having and developing a skill is not happening overnight.

Content of thesis:

1.0 List

1.1 List of Tables
1. List of Table is after Table of Content

2. In writing caption for table, numbering is based on the chapter.

Example in figure below, the table is for Chapter 1. Hence, the format will be Table 1.X. 'X' is referred to the numbered of table. As in the example, it is table number 1 for Chapter 1, hence it be written Table 1.1. If it is table numbered 2, then the format will be Table 1.2. Title of the table should be italic, and below the numbering system.

Table 1.1

Introduced Variables in Online Teaching and Learning Practices based on Need Analysis

1.2 List of Figure
1. List of Figure is after List of Table

2. In writing caption for figure, numbering is based on the chapter.

Example in figure below, the figure is for Chapter 2. Hence, the format will be Figure 2.X. 'X' is referred to the numbered of figure. As in the example, it is figure number 3 for Chapter 2, hence it be written Figure 2.3. Title of the figure should be italic, and below the numbering system. The concept is similar with Table.

Figure 2.3

Theoretical Framework

1.3 List of appendices
1. List of Appendix is after List of Figure