Example Of An Analysis Of An Article

Article Analysis

A genre-based analysis of English research article abstracts and the linguistic feature of personal pronouns for financial economics

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Abstract: This paper presents an empirical study of move structures and personal pronouns of fifty English RA (research article) abstracts based on the model of Bhatia (1990). It revealed that three other move patterns were ascertained besides ten out of the analyzed abstracts following his move order. The analysis of personal pronouns showed that first-person plural pronouns are used far more frequently than other types of personal pronouns and no presence of the second-person and the third-person pronouns were detected in the abstracts. A further analysis suggests that first-person plural pronouns can perform multiple functions in abstracts. ESP (English as Special Purpose) teachers may benefit from the study to guide students to explore the discourse conventions of the RA abstracts in their own texts.

Key words: RA abstract for financial economics; genre analysis; move; personal pronouns

1. Introduction

With the recognition of the role English plays in the world language, researchers need to read English research articles to keep abreast with the latest development of a relevant field and exchange academic information. "An abstract, as commonly understood, is a description or factual summary of the much longer report, and is meant to give the reader an exact and concise knowledge of the full article" (Bhatia, 1993, p. 78). It is, therefore, the urgent need that Chinese researchers and students obtain a comprehensive understanding of the genre knowledge about RA abstracts.

Over the last 20 years, a large number of studies on academic writing have focused on research articles, in particular, its structure, social construction and historical evolution (Samraj, 2002). Swales (1990, p. 132), in an overview of completed textual studies of the genre of the research article (RA), says that "it is easy to see that some fields are much less well represented than others; for example, there is very little on disciplines such as economics or sociology". Therefore, financial economics was chosen as the discipline of the present study to fill the gap. A further justification for the present study is that it will be a contribution to the comprehensive and global research in genre analysis of research articles.

2. Method

2.1 General principles and procedures of data collection

In order to ensure reliability of the results as well as eliminate writer's biases, data collection should strictly follow the scientific method of sampling. Principles suggested by Nwogu (1997, p. 121) as to the selection of

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Example of an analysis of an article is a crucial skill that can enhance one's understanding of texts and improve critical thinking abilities. Analyzing articles allows readers to dissect arguments, evaluate evidence, and uncover underlying themes. This article will provide a comprehensive guide on how to effectively analyze an article, complete with examples and methodologies to ensure a thorough understanding of the text in question.

Understanding the Purpose of Article Analysis

Analyzing an article serves several purposes:

1. Critical Thinking Development: Engaging in article analysis encourages readers to think critically about what they read. It pushes them to question assumptions, evaluate evidence, and consider alternative viewpoints.
2. Enhanced Comprehension: By breaking down an article into its components, readers can gain a deeper understanding of the material. This is especially important for complex or academic texts.
3. Improved Communication Skills: Analyzing articles helps refine one's ability to articulate

thoughts and arguments clearly and effectively, both in writing and verbally.

Steps to Analyze an Article

When conducting an analysis of an article, it is important to follow a structured approach. Below are the steps to guide you through the process:

1. Preliminary Reading

Before diving into a detailed analysis, start with a preliminary reading of the article. This first read-through should be more about grasping the general idea rather than focusing on the details.

- Skim the Article: Get an overview by skimming headings, subheadings, and any highlighted or bolded text.
- Identify the Main Idea: Determine the central argument or thesis of the article.

2. Detailed Reading

After the preliminary reading, conduct a detailed reading to identify the components of the article.

- Take Notes: Jot down important points, significant arguments, and your reactions as you read.
- Highlight Key Concepts: Use a highlighter to mark crucial passages that illustrate the author's main points.

3. Identify the Structure of the Article

Understanding the structure helps in comprehensively analyzing the article. Most articles follow a specific format, which may include:

- Introduction: Presents the main topic and thesis statement.
- Body: Contains detailed arguments, evidence, and examples that support the thesis.
- Conclusion: Summarizes the key points and reiterates the significance of the findings.

4. Analyze the Arguments

Dissect the arguments presented in the article. Here are some questions to consider:

- What are the main arguments?: Identify and list the supporting arguments.

- Is the argument logical?: Assess whether the reasoning is sound and coherent.
- What evidence is provided?: Look for data, statistics, and examples, and evaluate their credibility.

5. Consider the Author's Perspective

Understanding the author's viewpoint and background can provide context to the article's arguments.

- Author's Credentials: Research the author's qualifications and expertise in the subject matter.
- Bias and Perspective: Consider any potential biases the author may have that could affect the argument presented.

6. Evaluate the Conclusion

The conclusion of an article often ties together the main themes and arguments.

- Does it effectively summarize the key points?: Analyze whether the conclusion reiterates the main argument convincingly.
- What implications or recommendations does the author provide?: Note any calls to action or suggestions for further research.

Example of an Analysis of an Article

To illustrate the process, let's analyze a hypothetical article titled "The Impact of Climate Change on Coastal Cities."

1. Preliminary Reading

Upon skimming the article, the main idea is clear: the author argues that climate change poses significant risks to coastal cities, leading to increased flooding and displacement of populations.

2. Detailed Reading

The detailed reading reveals that the author supports this argument with various case studies, statistical data on rising sea levels, and expert opinions from environmental scientists.

3. Identify the Structure of the Article

The article follows a structured format:

- Introduction: Introduces the topic of climate change and its relevance to coastal cities.
- Body: Divided into sections discussing rising sea levels, case studies of cities like Miami and New Orleans, and potential solutions.
- Conclusion: Summarizes the findings and calls for urgent action to mitigate risks.

4. Analyze the Arguments

The main arguments include:

- Rising Sea Levels: The author cites a study showing a projected rise of 2 feet by 2050.
- Case Studies: Miami experiences increased flooding incidents, and New Orleans remains vulnerable due to its geographic location.
- Proposed Solutions: The article discusses potential strategies, such as investing in flood barriers and sustainable urban planning.

The evidence presented is compelling, especially the use of credible sources and real-world examples.

5. Consider the Author's Perspective

The author, a climate scientist with years of research experience, lends significant credibility to the arguments. However, a potential bias may exist, as the author advocates for specific policy measures, which may influence the presentation of data.

6. Evaluate the Conclusion

The conclusion effectively summarizes the urgency of addressing climate change impacts on coastal cities. The author calls for immediate action from policymakers and emphasizes the need for community awareness.

Final Thoughts on Article Analysis

Engaging in an example of an analysis of an article is not just an academic exercise; it is a valuable skill that fosters critical thinking, enhances comprehension, and improves communication. By following the structured steps outlined above, readers can dissect articles effectively, gaining insights that extend beyond the text itself.

In conclusion, mastering the art of article analysis will empower individuals to engage with

written content more thoughtfully, contributing to informed discussions and a better understanding of complex issues facing society today. Whether it's a scholarly article, a news piece, or an opinion editorial, the ability to analyze and synthesize information is an essential tool in any reader's toolkit.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of analyzing an article?

The purpose of analyzing an article is to critically evaluate its arguments, identify biases, assess the validity of the evidence presented, and understand the overall message or purpose of the text.

What key elements should be included in an article analysis?

An article analysis should include the article's thesis, main arguments, evidence used, rhetorical strategies, the author's background, and the article's impact or significance.

How do you identify the thesis statement in an article?

The thesis statement is typically found in the introduction or conclusion of the article and presents the main idea or argument that the author intends to convey.

What is the difference between summarizing and analyzing an article?

Summarizing involves condensing the main points of the article into a brief overview, while analyzing requires a deeper examination of the arguments, effectiveness, and implications of those points.

Why is it important to consider the author's background in an article analysis?

Considering the author's background helps to understand their perspective, potential biases, and how their experiences may influence their arguments and conclusions.

What role does evidence play in the analysis of an article?

Evidence is crucial in supporting the author's claims; analyzing the quality, relevance, and sources of this evidence is essential to evaluate the strength of the article's arguments.

How can one assess the effectiveness of an article's rhetorical strategies?

To assess the effectiveness of an article's rhetorical strategies, one should examine how

the author uses ethos, pathos, and logos to persuade the audience, along with the overall clarity and coherence of the writing.

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