

**COMPONENTS INCORPORATED IN ACADEMIC  
JOURNAL ARTICLES OF T.U.**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by  
Bhima Khatiwada**

**Faculty of Education  
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
2015**

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2015**

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge this thesis is original; no part of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research degree to any university.

Date: 08/24/2015

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## **RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE**

This is to certify that **Mrs. Bhima Khatiwada** has completed her thesis entitled "Components Incorporated in Academic Journal Articles of T.U." under my guidance and supervision.

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# DEDICATION

Dedicated

to

My loving parents, who made all this possible, and for their unconditional love and unceasing effort and with overall academic environment and; to my well-wishers who want to see my progress in future

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## **ABSTRACT**

This research work entitled **Components Incorporated in Academic Journal Articles of T.U.** aims at exposing the pre-existing formats of articles in journals produced from the various Nepalese institutions and tracing out the effective structure through comparing and analyzing them minutely. The articles for the research were selected from different genres by using non-random purposive sampling procedure. The secondary data were collected from books, theses, articles, journals, and so forth. The populations of the study were ten different journals published from Nepal and the sample consisted of forty articles; four articles each from two volumes of one academic genre. The data were collected by using the tool of observation and have been analyzed and interpreted descriptively with the help of simple tabulations and statistical signs-plus and minus. The major finding of this study shows that the few journal articles published in Nepal, to some extent, found to be rule bound with the mainstream standard of writing articles in academic journals but most of the articles seemed autonomous, violating the standard rules.

This thesis has been divided into five different chapters. The first chapter deals with general background of the study, statement of the problem, rationale of the study, objectives, significance, delimitations of the study and operational definition of the key terms. Similarly, the second chapter consists of the review of the related theoretical literature, implications of the review for the study and conceptual frameworks. The third chapter deals with the methodological aspects under which design of the study, population and sample, sampling procedures, data collection tools, data collection procedure and data analysis and interpretation procedure have been included. The fourth chapter focuses on the results and discussions of the data in greater detail. As the fifth chapter of the study, it consists of summary, conclusions and implications of the study in policy making level and practice level with some directions for the further research. The selected three journal articles, references and appendices are attached at the end of the thesis.

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Dr.	-	Doctor
e.g.	-	For example
ELT	-	English Language Teaching
et al.	-	And other people or things
ibid	-	In the same source (referring to a previously cited work)
i.e.	-	That is
INFOLIB	-	Information of Library Science
LISSA	-	Library and Information Science Students' Association
M.Ed.	-	Master in Education
NELTA	-	Nepal English Language Teacher's Association
No.	-	Number
P.	-	Page
Prof.	-	Professor
Reg.	-	Registration
T.U.	-	Tribhuvan University
Viz.	-	Namely
Vol.	-	Volume
&	-	And
(+)	-	Used
(-)	-	Not used
(/)	-	Or

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

This research aimed at exploring the academic structure of journals through analyzing elements comparatively from various journals produced in different academic institutions and associations like NELTA. I carried out the research under the topic “**Components Incorporated in Academic Journal Articles of T.U.**” and the main objective of it was to expose the prevailing formation of academic journal writing in Nepalese institutions. This study coped with and reinforced on the weak spots the writers made in written English academic journal articles. To accomplish the objectives, I took ‘survey’ as a research design.

### **1.1 General Background of the Study**

Since English language is the foreign language for Nepalese, Nepali-English writers have to cross many milestones undergoing various adversities to access the mainstream trend of writings. It is a matter of great significance that we have many writers with Nepali background writing in English who are striving to write for life or for different purposes.

Writing is a complex process that allows writers to explore thought and ideas, and make them visible and concrete. Writing encourages thinking and learning for it motivates communication and makes thought available for reflection. As civilization progress, writing has been one of the important methods to deliver people’s notions and ideas. It has also been subdivided into several different types of writing as following the convenience since it has been used as a way of communication. It is said that each types of writing has proper way to be written. For instance, it is supposed to be different writing style between novel based on fiction, and mail based on fact.

Among the various forms of writing, the trend of writing journal is also increasing in Nepal which is known through the journals written and published under the various institutions, organizations and associations like NELTA and other area. These journal writings are also somehow rule bound.

According to Miller & Suzanne (1992), writing is a form of communication that involves five elements which together form what is called rhetorical situation:

- Author- the writer or speaker
- Audience- the reader or listener
- Purpose- why the author wants to communicate
- Topic- what the author wants to communicate
- Occasion-when and where the communication takes place

According to Miller et al. (ibid), all good writers have at least one common characteristic i.e. they are readers as well as writers. They are readers in the sense that they constantly acquire new information while writing by discovering ideas for writing. More than this, they are readers of their own work. Similarly, experienced writers always need to keep audience in mind and they should use language and tone accordingly. Whereas inexperienced writers often write as if they do not really expect anyone else to read what they have written. So from the viewpoint of audience, writers can also be examined as experienced or inexperienced writers. On the other hand, purpose can be defined as motive or aim that a writer hopes to accomplish through the writing. In writing, purpose has close link with topic or they must match to each other. Likewise, one of the elements of writing well is to choose a suitable topic for the paper. A good topic leads to suitable length as well as saying something worth saying. And occasion is context that mostly involves time and place. In academic writing, occasion may involve a number of things including language, organization, attitude, and so on.



## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The most succinct and significant part in writing academic articles is that the writers should maintain the skills to invent something new; something creatively original; something that adds a new block to the domain of knowledge. Although there is no single correct way to write an academic article, it is necessary to make a sufficiently large contribution to a specific discipline without replicating previous research but adding something new. Now existing current academic articles lack precise definitions of the core constructs and the conceptual framework i.e., the literature review is not well developed. The author's writing style is disorganized and the article is not structured properly. These issues were traced out in terms of title, abstract, keywords, introduction, literature review, methods, results, discussion as well as reference in the four articles from each ten different journals published from Nepal.

## **1.3 Rationale of the Study**

Since this research was designed so as to trace out the common rules for and observe the application of the basic terms in writing academic article, it helps the new and innovative writers to enter into the right track. It is traced out by comparing the components of the articles within them. Separating whether the use of very components is proper or not and these elements are used or not is the main purpose of this research. This research ensures that all the relevant recommendations have been included for its usefulness and appropriateness in various settings that necessitate. This research is nucleus as it establishes the rationale, significance, and need for the study.

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

The general objectives of this study were to explore importance of academic journal articles and identify their prevalent standards in the context of Nepal. Specifically, the research has the following objectives:

- i. To find out the common rules or format employed by the writers on the process of writing journal articles.
- ii. To trace out autonomous structures for academic journal writing through comparing and analyzing the various articles of different genres.
- iii. To suggest some pedagogical implications.

### **1.5 Research Question/Hypothesis**

A disorganized writing style leads to a poorly structured article. Why do the writers commit random or disorganized styles while writing academic articles?

The journal articles published from the Nepal do not have certain rules to be written in specific genre. The writers are entangling in the whirlwind of liminality while writing articles i.e., academic article-elements like keywords, abstract, result, discussion and so forth. They also commit intentionally or unknowingly academic misconducts such as, plagiarism, fabrication and falsification, complicity in academic misconduct from scholarly sources.

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

Journal writing is an important creative and fruitful writing which is significant for academic purpose. It needs proper rhetorical situation to be maintained which helps to learners, teachers, subject experts, curriculum designers, policy makers, textbook writers, language trainers and all the people who are directly or indirectly involved in English language teaching and learning as well as other area. It further helps find the distinctive rules in the process of writing academic journal articles and helps to differentiate the genre from other form of writing.

### **1.7 Delimitations of the Study**

The Study was limited under the following respects:

- a. The present research comprised only the journals of Nepal from ten different areas.

- b. It was limited to the analytical approach for evaluation.
- c. Unlike other factors such as SVO pattern and sentence level, the study was restrained only in the formats of journals.

## 1.8 Operational Definitions of the Key Terms

Some terminologies used in this research have different meaning depending upon the time, situation and context of its use. Hence, some significant terms used in this work can be defined below:

- a. **Liminality:** Liminality as described by Turner (2008) is neither outside nor inside. Liminality is neither dark nor bright, it is there and nor there, it is in a sense very obvious and very difficult to define. It is like a threshold and deserves the quality of ambiguity; state of being confusion and neither-nor situation.

In the act of writing journal articles, writers get confused and are in neither nor situation regarding which components are essential to meet the mainstream standards.

- b. **Plagiarism:** The appropriation, theft, purchase, or obtaining by any means another's work, and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of that work as one's own paraphrasing or another's work without giving credit therefore. It is the act of taking (the work or an idea of someone else) and passing it off as one's own. (source: Concise Oxford English Dictionary 11e, 2004)

For each writer of any genre, it is essential to be far from the act of possessing others idea. In this regard, this research has tried to trace out the stuffs within the mainstream format of academic journal articles.

- c. **Fabrication and Falsification:** Unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves altering information for use in any academic exercise. Fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information for use in

any academic exercise. In the context of Nepal, most of the articles commit fabrication and falsification while citing the notions of different schools of thought.

- d. **Rhetorical Situation:** Miller et al. (1992) states that author, audience, purpose, topic and occasion are the elements that together form rhetorical situation in any piece of academic writing. That is to say, a writer should keep audience or reader in his mind regarding why and what the author wants to communicate as well as when and where the communication takes place at the time of writing.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 Review of the Related Theoretical Literature**

Review of the related literature provides information of previous researches and other related literature. The term “literature” is employed to include anything appropriate to the topic such as theories, letters, documents, historical records, photos and other images or objects, and so forth. A review of the literature is necessary for every thesis. The aim of previewing the previous researches and literature is to explore what has already done before and what is left to be done in the very realm.

##### **2.1.1 Importance of Academic Journal Articles**

Academic institutions and journals share standards, such as how authoritative a piece of evidence is. Peer review in scholarly journals maintains standards in that journal and across the scholarly field. In a field like English literature, an author might meet this standard by arguing persuasively against opponents while giving a tightly constructed thesis. The peer review process can improve the quality of scholarly articles directly. The journal's panel can make suggestions to the author, including further research improvements. As this regard Murray (ibid, p. 42-45) shows the importance of journal in this way:

An academic journal's prestige is established over time, and can reflect many factors, some but not all of which are expressible quantitatively. In each academic discipline there are dominant journals that receive the largest number of submissions, and therefore can be selective in

choosing their content ...Yet, not only the largest journals are of excellent quality.

The goal of academic writing is to inform an audience about a particular topic in a very professional manner. Effective academic journal writing does involve clearly stating our purpose and presenting our information in a manner that is simplistic enough for others to read and understand while still having the tone of an academic piece. Furthermore, Murray (ibid, p. 50-53) mentions the benefits of academic writing that are as follows:

- a. **It enhances our intellect:** Academic writing enhances our intellect. Academic writing is not all about being able to write using the correct language but be able to persuade the readers about our opinions. It enables us to use our analytical ability and reach a rational conclusion. It makes us use logical facts and figures to prove our point. With every academic level the academic writing needs and demands change according to our steady mental growth.
- b. **It enhances writing skills:** Academic writing enhances our writing skills to a new level. The more we write the better our writing skills become with practice. We need writing skills in our professional career as well as higher academic levels where academic writing challenges are far stiffer.
- c. **It enhances research making Skills:** Quality academic writing is all about doing research and spotting the most authentic and relevant information. It teaches us to identify what sources and information is relevant and what is not. It sharpens our decision making skills.

The peer-review process is considered critical to establishing a reliable body of research and knowledge. Scholars can be expert only in a limited area of their fields; they rely upon peer-reviewed journals to provide reliable, credible research upon which they can build subsequent as well as related

research. Academic writing facilitates intellectual growth. It also allows us to sharpen up our research making skills. This exercise increases our intellectual capacity thus making us ready for more complicated future assignments.

Journals also can have a very specific purpose in mind. For example, asking a student to keep a professional growth and development journal can be very important, especially as they near completion of a degree program. Hanlon (1997, p. 168) says "such journals may be written solely with the author in mind, or alternatively for a wider professional audience, possibly for colleagues, a tutor, or an assessor in courses in higher education contexts."

In encapsulating above views, journal writing is an ongoing written account of observations, reflections, and other thoughts. Writing journal helps teachers, students as well as other persons who are involved in different professions. Journals are published in different institutions to achieve the goal of their subject matters.

### **2.1.2 Types of Academic Journal Articles**

Journal articles come in different types, depending upon the field and specific type of journals. According to Anonymous (2009, website: <http://explorable.com/academic-journals>), academic journals usually include:

- a. **Letters/Communications:** These are short descriptions of important latest study or research findings which are usually considered urgent for immediate publication. Examples of these would be important breakthroughs regarding cures or treatments for previously incurable conditions, or cure for a particular outbreak of disease, like for example swine flu.
- b. **Research Notes:** Research notes are typically short descriptions which are considered less urgent compared to letters. These contain information on current research findings of an expert or a researcher.

- c. **Articles:** These are usually around 5-20 pages and are complete descriptions of current original research findings.
- d. **Supplemental Articles:** These mostly consist of large-volume tabular data that details all the results of current research.
- e. **Review Articles:** Review articles, unlike the previous types, do not cover original research but instead accumulate results of multiple articles on a particular field or topic into a coherent narrative about the state of the art in the said field. They provide information about the subject and at the same time provide journal references to the original research.

### 2.1.3 Process of Academic Writing

The academic writing process is more about gaining knowledge than it is about writing. The writing part, of the academic writing process, is only used to demonstrate the knowledge which we have gained. There are different processes of writing and everyone has his or her own process. But experienced writers follow an accepted process in writing academic articles as mentioned by Miller et al. (1992):

- a. Finding a topic
- b. Planning
- c. Drafting
- d. Revising
- e. Editing

**a. Finding a topic:** Topic is the subject matter for writing. Writers need to write about something so ‘finding a topic’ is the first step of writing which is often the most difficult in writing process. Of course, writing becomes the best when we write about something we are vitally interested in, but that is not often the case. Sometimes we are given a subject to write by a teacher, an employer,



or even a friend, or relative. In that case, the preliminary work becomes finding something to say about the subject.

**b. Planning-** This is the step of writing when one has to arrange ideas generated in earlier steps into an effective sequence. This is the time that one has to decide and plan about what materials to include and what to leave out. Different writers plan their writing differently. Some writers prepare a detailed outline before they even complete their search for ideas. Others barge ahead without having a very clear idea of where they are going. Such writers let the writing lead them, and some writers work one way on one project and a different way on the next.

Despite these, what one should understand is that planning is not contract rather it can easily be changed. So there is no single correct way to plan. And any plan that works for him or her is the correct plan for writing activity.

**c. Drafting-** It means writing a preliminary version of a work that will be later revised. So, it is not a finished product or final version rather it can be thought of as a practice or experiment that leads to prepare a final shape of the writing. It is done after the completion of invention. Unlike planning that requires putting ideas into a coherent and purposeful order drafting challenges writers to find the words understandable and interesting for readers.

**d. Revising-** Revising refers to an act of seeing again the written matter by seeking ways for clarity, coherence, concision as well as correctness. Then it becomes a process where we can add, eliminate, and rearrange the materials. That way, revision becomes a means by which we shift the writing from an act that satisfies our own need to express ourselves one that satisfies the readers need to understand.

**e. Editing-** Editing is the final state of writing process where focus is drawn to the technical errors. The process begins checking the grammar. While checking grammar, one needs to be sure of completion of each sentence: subject verb

pair; dangling modifiers; shifts in tense, person or tone; mixed metaphors; faculty predictions; pronouns and so on. So the thing is to concentrate on punctuation, spelling, mechanics, grammar, and usage.

In editing, standard dictionary can help in correcting spelling and meanings of words. Computer programs also help to identify the technical errors. But errors like 'there' for 'their' cannot be identified in computer. Through revision and edition, the writing gets final shape. Printing in good paper can add to the beauty of writing. Anyway, writing should be clear, effective, and cohesive with good organization, correct as well which the properties of good writing are. Garfield (2006) recommends:

It is recommended that a researcher, even at early stages, should start the learning process of writing for journals. Once experience is gained, one should raise his ambition level step-by-step and aim towards publishing in increasingly better journals ... However, the ultimate goal should be eventually publishing the work in a journal. A researcher should consider his ambition level and assess the level of his own research when choosing the publication medium.

However, the content for academic writing articles should be well identified by the topic. The reader is expecting that the content matter will be related to the topic. Likewise, writer should place subtopics within an academic writing piece; the contents, objective as well as body of the text should match the subtopic for the effective writing.

### **2.1.4 Role of ELT Journals in the Context of Nepal**

ELT journals are especially oriented to the betterment of teachers and learners. According to Ho & Richards (1993, p. 8), those journals provide an “opportunity for teacher to use the process of writing to describe and explore their own teaching practices.”

Journal can be the tool for teachers to clarify their own thinking and to explore their own beliefs and practices. It enables teachers to know the importance of relating their own experience of learning to that of the students they teach. It also concerns with the way teachers teach and how students perceive. Journal writing helps the teacher to improve their teaching techniques and language skills. It is the most natural form of classroom research that promotes the development of reflective teaching. Hence, ELT Journals play a vital role in the context of Nepal.

### **2.1.5 ELT Journal and Other Journals**

Journals written for the purpose of English language teaching- learning activities are called ELT journals. Every journal has its own purpose. The journal has the nexus between the everyday concerns of practioners with insights achieved through the identical academic genres like applied linguistic, sociology, psychology and so on. These journals are dedicated to promoting scholarly exchange among teachers and researchers in the field of English language teaching. The scope of ELT includes theory and practice in English language teaching and learning, teaching English as a foreign language, English language teachers’ and education. In this regard, Smith (2007) has mentioned:

The journal that gave its name to our field of activity recently reached the age of sixty - in October 1946, the first issue of *English Language Teaching*, now known as *ELT Journal*, was sent out around the world

from the British Council's offices in Hanover Street, London. Since then the journal has continuously served as a focal point for the profession, to the extent indeed that its title, abbreviated to 'ELT', began to be adopted as an umbrella term for the whole enterprise of teaching English as a foreign or second language.

According to Smith (ibid), ELT journal is concerned with educational sector, especially to the teacher and students who teach and learn English as a foreign or second language. In Nepal, many journals are published which are related to the ELT. Likewise, NELTA is one of the reliable associations. NELTA was established in 1992 with the aim to set up a common platform for all the teachers of Nepal to support their professional development. It is a non-governmental and professional association to foster the exchange of ideas, information and experience among the people who are associated with English language teaching. This association frequently publishes ELT materials, periodicals and journals with the aim of improving ELT situation of Nepal and several branches are opened in different places in Nepal and conducting different activities e.g. conferences, human resource development, teaching, training, one day workshop and so on.

Publishing journals is one of the activities of NELTA, which consists of different articles from writers of different countries such as Nepal, India, Bangladesh, America etc. in different issues about language teaching. Their articles directly and indirectly present the issues related to ELT situation of their own country. With the help of those articles, English language teachers can get help to improve their teaching techniques and language skills. Different writers have their own style and their own selection of words and sentence structures in writing. In other words, there may be the variations even within the same language.

There are various journals produced in various fields and they carry separate goals. On the one hand, ELT journals are oriented especially to the teacher-learner's behalf. These journals are academic journals but on the other hands, the journals that are produced beyond teaching-learning activities can be categorized as other journals. Under this category, there fall legal journals, personal journals and so on. ELT journals can be different from other journals in terms of their subject matter and purpose. But the process and structure can be the same. The forms of ELT journals and other journals usually are the same but the contents are different.

### **2.1.6 Tribhuvan University as House of Journals**

Tribhuvan University was established in 1959 and is the largest and oldest university in Nepal. It covers around 95% of total higher education of Nepal. Currently, it is having network of 60 constitutional campuses and 832 affiliated campuses in it. There are four different faculties and five institutes under one umbrella. It is 22<sup>nd</sup> biggest universities in the world. There are five institutes which are as follows; (source, website: <http://nepaluniversity.com/tribhuvan-university>)

- Institute of Medicine
- Institute of Engineering
- Institute of Science & Technology
- Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science
- Institute of forestry

There are four different faculties under TU:

- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Management
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Law

I have listed some of the journals published from TU institutes and faculties.  
They are as follows;

- *Dhaulagiri Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*, TU, Department of sociology and Anthropology, Mahendra Multiple Campus, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/DSAJ>
- *Economic Journal of Nepal*, TU, Central Department of Economics, Kathmandu, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/EJON>
- *Himalayan Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*, Prithivinarayan Campus, Pokhara, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/HJSA>
- *Journal of Nepalese Business Studies*, TU, Faculty of Management, Prithivinarayan Campus, Pokhara, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/JNBS>
- *Journal of Political Science*, TU, Department of Political Science and Sociology of PrithiviNarayan Campus, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/JPS>
- *Contribution to Nepalese Studies*, TU/Center for Nepal and Asian-Studies (SENAS), <http://cnasta.org.np/pub.html>.
- *Botanica Orientalis: Journal of Plant Science*, TU, Central Department of Botany, <http://cdbtu.edu.np/botanica-orientalis>
- *Bulletin of the Department of Geology*, TU, Central Department of Zeology, <http://tugeology.edu.np/publication/all-journals>
- *Journal of Natural History Museum*, TU, Natural History Museum, Kathmandu. <http://nepjol.info/index.php/php/JNHM>
- *The Third Pole: Journal of Geography Education*, Kathmandu <http://nepjol.info/index.php/TTP>
- *Voice of History*, TU, Central Department of History, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/VOH>
- *Economic Journal of Development Issues*, TU, Department of Economics Patan Multiple Campus, Lalitpur, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/EJDI>
- *Journal of the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science*, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/JIAAS>

- *Nepal Agricultural Research Journal*, Society of Agricultural Scientists, Nepal, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/NARJ>
- *Journal of Forest and Livelihood*, Forest Action Nepal, <http://forestaction.org/journals.php>
- *Tribhuvan University Nournal*, Research Division, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/TUJ>
- *Nepalese Journal of Public Policy and Goverance*, TU/Public Administration Campus, <http://njpg.pactu.edu.np/>
- *Journal of Institute of Medicine*, Institute of Medicine, Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, <http://nepjol.info/index.php/JIOM>
- *Young Voices in ELT*, Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Education, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- *INFOLIB*, Library and Information Science Students Associations (LISSA), CDLIS, TU Kirtipur, Kathmandu, <http://www.tulisd.edu.np>

All these aforementioned faculties and institutes under TU are producing a number of journal articles for their specific academic purposes. Hence, we can solely assert that Tribhuvan University is the house of journals.

## **2.2 Review of the Related Empirical Literature**

Many researchers have already done the research in the field of language used in different journal in our department. Some of them are listed below;

**Karki (2009)** had done research on “Language used in Legal Journals.” The main purpose of this study was to find out the characteristic features of language used in legal text in terms of tense, voice and sentence types, and to list out the special vocabularies in the legal text. He had used judgmental sampling procedure which was non-probability sampling. He used observation as a tool for collecting data. He found that the language used in the text of legal journals had its own structures, genre, tense; aspects as well as voice and legal journals had their own registers. He derived on the conclusion that passive voice, complex sentences and non-past tense were used more frequently and

simple sentences, active voice and past tense were used less frequently. It was found that the technical terms, abbreviations and sentences structures are made difficult to understand for the one who is not familiar with the language of legal field. He found aforementioned findings through descriptive analysis.

Moreover, **Oli (2009)** also carried out research entitled “Language Used in Medical Journals.” The main objectives of his study was to find out the characteristic features of the language used in medical journal in terms of tense (past and non-past), aspect (progressive and perfective), voice (active and passive) and sentence types (simple and complex), and to describe the language of those journals in terms of technical abbreviated and technical non-abbreviated words. By using only secondary sources of data, he applied judgmental sampling procedure which is one of the non-probability sampling designs to study about language used in journals. He took observation as the main tool for data collection. In case of tense, aspects, voice, sentence types, he found that past tense, simple aspect, passive voice and complex sentences were used maximally respectively in the texts of medical journals. In terms of technical words non-abbreviated technical words were maximally found whereas, abbreviated technical words were found in low frequency.

Likewise, **Poudel (2009)** had carried out a research in 'Language Used in Engineering Journal.' The purposes of her study were to find out the tense, aspect, voice, specific vocabularies and sentence types used in engineering journals and to compare those aspects of language in terms of native and non native journals. She had used judgmental or purposive non-random sampling procedure. While collecting data, she used observation as a tool. At the end of this research, she found that simple aspect was found in more common in the both types of journals. In voice, tense and sentence type, both of the native and non-native journals are found highly using active voice, non-past, and complex sentences respectively. In her study, analysis of deixis was not found.



Similarly, **Sapkota (2008)** carried out a research entitled ‘Language Used in Human Right Journals-A Descriptive Study’ to analyze the language use in human rights journals in terms of sentence types (simple, compound and complex), tense (past and non-past), voice (active and passive), and aspects (perfective and progressive), and to list out the special vocabularies used in human rights journals in terms of word class and their frequencies. Using only secondary sources, he had adopted judgmental sampling procedure. He made his study purposively by using observation tool. He jumped to the conclusion that complex sentences are maximally used. In case of tense, voice and aspect, the past tense, the passive voice and the perfective aspects were mostly used. He had found most of the words were nouns whereas verbs and adjectives were also found in a limited number but he could not find any adverb in terms of word class.

By the same token, **Neupane (2008)** carried out the study on “Language Used in the Journals of Agriculture.” The main objective of his study was to analyze the language used in the journal of agriculture in terms of sentence types, tense, voice, aspect and vocabularies with their word-class and frequency. Judgmental sampling design had been applied to collect the data in the study. He found that most of the texts have been found to have written in the complex sentences, past tense, active voice and simple aspect. Among the major word class, he found that nouns have been used maximally and adverbs have not been found in the journals of agriculture.

Although the aforementioned researchers had carried out their researches on different aspects of journals, I did the search on “Writing Articles in Academic Journals”, which had not been done yet. The end of my research was to find out the common rules, format and contents employed by the writers on the process of writing journals. While doing so, I selected the journals from different genres like English Language Teaching (ELT), Medical science, Engineering, Economics, Voice of History, Business Study, Political Science, Agriculture and Animal Science, Sociology and Anthropology, and Information and

Library Science (INFOLIB), and analyzed them comparatively to trace out the mostly used structure of the journal.

### **2.3 Implications of the Review for the Study**

The aforementioned reviewed literature helped directly and indirectly in my further research. Findings of previous studied field somehow became the foundation to step forward for fetching new issues. Most of the former researchers threw spotlight on the language used in journal articles of different fields so I got chance to posit a point of departure by engaging with diverse perspectives while evolving a fresh standpoint on the on-going debates regarding the condition of some academic journal articles published from Nepal in terms of their format and their structures. However, the reviewed researches had grounded in my field as secondary sources that sharpened me to conceptualize and develop the framework.

### **2.4 Theoretical/Conceptual Framework**

A theoretical framework refers to how the researcher or writer of the report not only questions, but ponders and develops thoughts on what the possible answers could be, then these thoughts and theories are grouped together into themes that frame the subjects. It is the process of identifying a core set of connectors within the topic and showing how they fit together.

#### **2.4.1 Academic Journal Articles**

Academic journal articles are typically identified by their contributors as professors, graduate students, or others with first-hand experience with the subject matter. These articles are written by experts who very well produce a thoughtful, insightful, and important overview of a current issue in an academic field. According to Blake & Bly (1993, p. 113), "An academic journal is a peer-reviewed periodical in which scholarship relating to a particular academic discipline is published. Academic journals serve as forums for the introduction and presentation for scrutiny of new research, and the critique of existing

research." Academic journals are periodicals in which researchers publish articles on their work. Most often these articles discuss recent research. Journals also publish theoretical discussions and articles that critically review already published work. Academic journals are typically peer-reviewed journals. Similarly, Murray (2009, p. 10) states, "Academic writing is that set of conventions we see in a thesis or a published paper in our disciplines, a definition that becomes more precise once you scrutinize examples of published writing in your target journals." For writing journal article, writers have to get some experiences on the related field as well as they should get proper knowledge. As this regard Murray (ibid, p. xi-xii) says:

You cannot write for academic journals until you have immersed yourself in the literature and you cannot write for academic journals if you have not done any research...widely accepted conception about writing for academic journals have, of course, an element of truth in them; conceptualize your contribution in terms of the other work that has been done ...if this is true, then you need strategies to write and develop your ideas while you are still learning about academic writing in your field. You also have to overcome the misconception that you cannot publish anything because you have not done any 'real' research.

Writing articles for academic journals is not a simple task. Writers need to be prepared for writing academic style and applying proper structure. They, especially, novice writers should do more labour rigorously in writing.

#### **2.4.2 Structure of an Academic Journal Writing**

Writing articles for academic journals is not a trouble-free assignment. We need to be geared up for writing academic style and applying apposite structure. The aim of this paper is to investigate the rules of writing academic

articles. The guidelines differ with various languages and cultures. When we are dealing with plan, we keep in mind the structure of the article.

According to Kotzé (2007, p. 2), articles in most academic journals are roughly 20 to 25 A4 page (1.5 line spacing) or 4000 to 7000 words in length. An academic journal-article in which the findings of quantitative research are reported will typically have the structure outlined in the following table.

**Typical structure of an academic article reporting the findings of a quantitative study**

Title	8-15 (words)
Abstract	200-250
Key words	6-8
Introduction	500-1000
Literature review (Alternatively: Background, conceptual development or conceptual framework)	1000-2000
Methods (Alternatively: Methodology) - Sampling * Target population and research context * Sampling * Respondent profile - Data collection * Data collection methods -Measures (Alternatively: Measurement)	500-1000
Results (Alternatively: Findings) Descriptive statistics (Alternatively : Preliminary analysis) Hypothesis testing (Alternatively : Inferential statistics)	1000-1500
Discussion Summary of findings Managerial implications Limitations Recommendations for future research	1000-1500
Total	4000-7000 (Words)

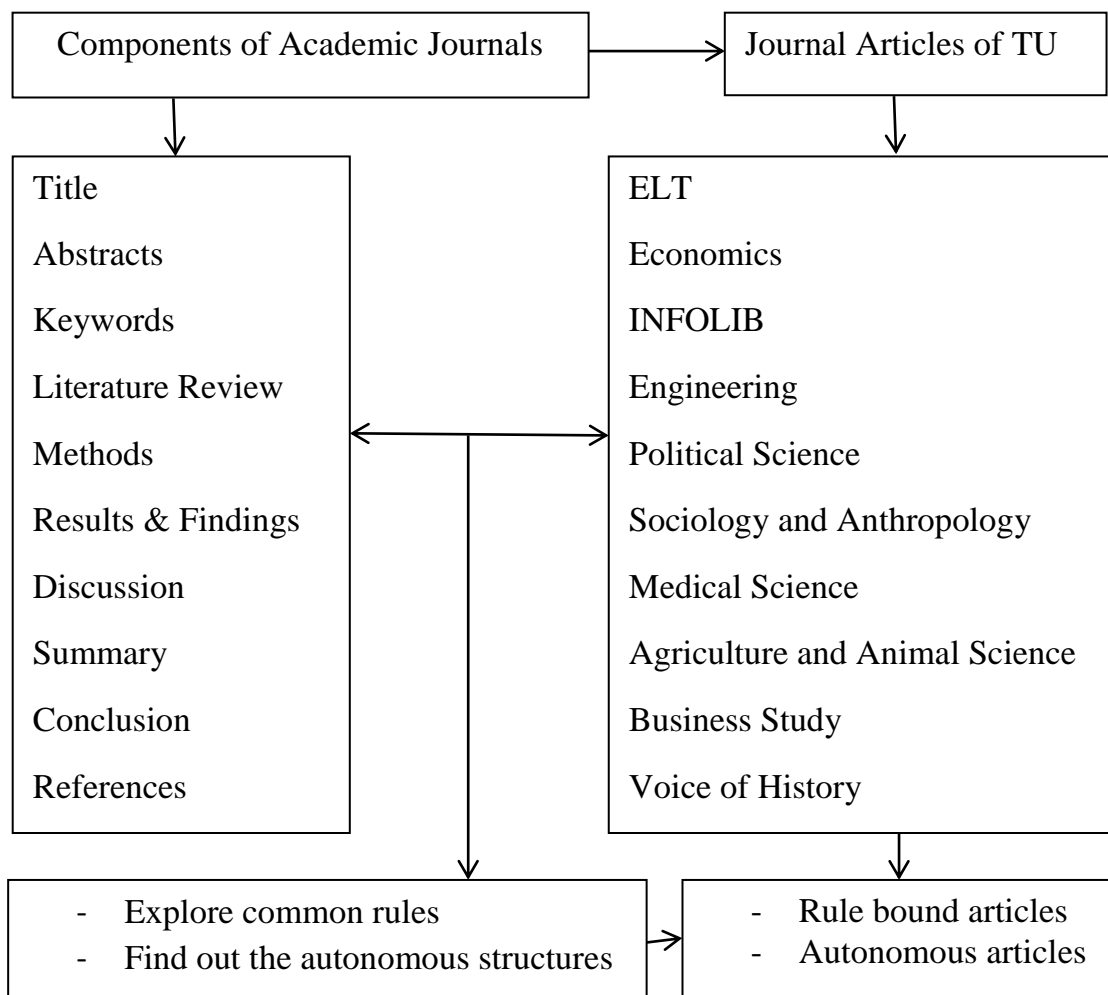
(Source: [http://web.up.ac.za/sitefiles/file/40/753/writing\\_an\\_academic\\_journal\\_article.pdf](http://web.up.ac.za/sitefiles/file/40/753/writing_an_academic_journal_article.pdf))

The above structure meets the elements of academic journal articles which are identical to the purpose of my study. This research throws the spot light on the structure, as well as format employed by the writers while writing academic

articles. It is necessary to follow the highly accepted format to access the effective writing journal articles.

The present research study generally concerns with various components that play very significant role in writing academic journal articles. More specially, it deals with a number of elements that should be taken into consideration while generating journal articles. Components incorporated in academic journal articles of T.U. are the focal points of the research.

### Conceptual Framework



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY**

This chapter compacted with the methodological procedures for data collection employing the survey research as a research design. I adopted the following methodology to carry out study.

#### **3.1 Design of the Study**

In research process, the researchers follow different research designs like experimental, action, survey and so forth in accordance with their objectives and their contextual framework. Similarly, my research curbed in survey research by the quantitative nature of my study. In this survey research, I observed different journals and analyzed the data systematically.

Survey research is most commonly used in educational research. It is very important for social inquiry, politics and developmental studies and most significantly used for education and linguistic aspects. Survey research in education can be carried out either by a group of researcher or by an individual. It is mainly depends upon the nature of study. In survey research data is collected only at a single point of time aiming to obtain overview a phenomenon, event, issue or situation. It is conducted in natural setting.

In case of educational survey research, Cohen et al. (2010, p. 208) states, "Survey can both descriptive and analytical. Descriptive surveys simply describe data on variables in interest, whereas analytical surveys operate with hypothesized predictors or explanatory variables that are tested for their influence in dependent variables."

The main purpose of survey research was to find out the actual behaviors, attitudes and opinions of the people on certain issues, events, situations or phenomena. In survey research, data are gathered from relatively large numbers

of population using certain sampling procedure. Survey deals with clearly defined problems and objectives.

To sum up, survey research is conducted in large number of populations in reference to the educational information. It is useful to gather factual information from both present and past. Survey research collects data on a one-shot basis and hence is economical and efficient.

### **3.2 Sources of Data**

I used only secondary sources of data to facilitate my research.

#### **3.2.1 Secondary Sources of Data**

The secondary sources of data in my study were books, theses, articles, websites, online resources, journals, and so forth.

### **3.3 Population and Sample**

The population of the study were ten different journals published from Nepal. The sample consisted of forty articles; four articles each from two volumes of the same academic genre.

### **3.4 Sampling Procedure**

The study was quantitative (survey) in nature. Sample was selected by non-random purposive sampling procedure. Among them four articles each from ELT, Economic, INFOLIB, Engineering, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology, Medical Science, Agriculture and Animal Science, Business Studies, and Voice of History.

### **3.5 Data/Information Collection Tools**

Among the different types of tools for data collection I used observation as a tool for data collection. I collected information from the journal articles of ten different sectors through the observation of the study.

### **3.6 Data/Information Collection Procedure**

I adopted the following data collection procedures for my research purpose:

- a. Initially, I went to the Central Department of Economics, and Library and Information Science. I consulted with the main persons of the Departments about my purpose and borrowed the journals from there.
- b. I downloaded the remaining journal articles from e-sources. Thereafter, I chose each four articles from different two volumes of ten different genres.
- c. At last, I observed those selected texts and took required notes from them and got ready to move ahead for the data analysis process.

### **3.7 Data Analysis and Interpretation procedure**

Generally, analyzing data refers to the process of making order and bringing structure of jumbled and random raw materials. It is a way of mending true organization of disorder things effectively. The way of analyzing and interpreting the collected data varies with the nature of research. Matching with the objective and the nature of the study, it is conducted descriptively or statistically.

I analyzed the articles collected from the different journals using appropriate lists and tables to observe and evaluate the common terms used in them. I tabulated the elements namely title, abstract, keywords, introduction, literature review, method, result, discussion/conclusion, and references and then analyzed them comparatively with the all articles.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter provides the results and discussion regarding the format used in the articles in academic journals of ten different genres in terms of title, abstract, keywords, introduction, literature review, methods, results, discussion as well as references. Since these elements are backbones of academic articles, it is necessary to know whether these articles of different areas include them or not.

#### 4.1 Results/Findings

The major findings of the study are as follows;

- a. The use of title was found in all the selected articles of ELT, Economics, INFOLIB, Engineering, Political Science, Sociology, Medical Science, Business Study, Agriculture and Animal Science, and Voice of History journals.
- b. Among the ten journals, abstract was fully used in the articles of ELT, Economics, Engineering, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, and Business Study only. But the rest journals didn't include abstract in each article.
- c. The journals using keywords in all the articles were ELT, Engineering, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, and Business Study. Among the ten different areas, only six areas have used keywords whereas four journals have not used keywords in their articles.
- d. Articles from Engineering, Sociology and Anthropology, Medical science, Agriculture, Business study and Voice of History except ELT, Economics, INFOLIB and Political science used in Introduction solely.
- e. The articles from ELT, Political Science and Voice of History except Economics, INFOLIB, Engineering, Sociology, Agriculture, and Business Study used Literature review in all selected articles.

- f. Articles from Economics, Agriculture, Medical and Business except ELT, INFOLIB, Engineering, Political Science, Sociology and Voice of History mentioned methods/methodology in all the four selected articles from each of them.
- g. Only the entire journal articles of Medical and Agriculture mentioned results/findings solely.
- h. ELT, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, and Business Studies mentioned 'Discussion/Summary/Conclusion' in all selected articles.
- i. Except INFOLIB Journal the rest journal articles had incorporated references solely.

## **4.2 Discussion/Interpretation**

I discussed and interpreted the study by analyzing the information descriptively with listing and tabulating data comparatively.

### **4.2.1 Analysis of Title in Journal Articles**

The title of the article, which hints at the major issues that the researcher is proposing to address, provides him/her with a strong bulwark. The title should clearly reflect the main theme, issue or position discussed in the article.

Because it creates expectations about the contents of the articles, the title should accurately reflect the nature and focus of the study and not create false expectations.

The overall comparison showed that the titles had solely been used in all journal articles. Obviously, all the articles have 'title' but it is urgent to observe if the titles match the theme or research topic; research design as well as context or not. The very thing regarding the use of title in four selected articles from ten different journals is analyzed in the following ways;

- a. ELT journal articles: In every four article of ELT journals, there was inclusion of titles which were matchable with their abstract, keywords and research topics.

- b. Economics journal articles: The titles used in four Economic journal articles reflected in the following elements like introduction, body of the text as well as conclusions. The length of those titles was precise and moderately preconceived.
- c. INFOLIB journal articles: Among the four articles of INFOLIB journals, three-fourth titles were suitable as they had been elucidated in starting-middle and the concluding part hitting the thematic aspects. But the remaining article (3) had mentioned too short title that could not reflect the whole text.
- d. Engineering journal articles: Since the field of Engineering is based on more practical than that of other areas, so the articles go through both theoretical and practical base. Therefore, the titles were found hitting the major issues to be proven; descriptive ones.
- e. Political Science journal articles: Titles employed in the articles of political science journals had deserved the quality of clarity and accuracy with the body of the text. The titles were comprehensive, representing part to whole.
- f. Sociology and Anthropology: The use of titles in the journal articles of Sociology and Anthropology were found to be tangible and they maintained the moderate length- resembling the contents as well as the context of the text from where articles were originated.
- g. Medical Science journal articles: The entire articles of Medical Science journals like aforementioned journal articles except INFOLIB put the 'titles' referring their truthfulness in all topics of the texts. But in the case of article number two of Medical Science, the title seemed a bit lengthy than others.
- h. Agriculture and Animal Science journal articles: The titles used in four Agriculture and Animal Science journal articles were specific as possible with moderate length. Some of the keywords listed after the abstract were appeared in the title.

- i. Business Studies journal articles: The titles were effective in four articles that could grab and lure the readers to delve deeper into the whole text; from abstract to conclusion.
- j. Voice of History journal articles: The title used in the articles of Voice of History journals clearly reflected the main theme, issue or position discussed in the article and the focus of the titles created true expectation.

It seemed that the title had solely been used in all journal articles but article three of INFOLIB journal and article two of medical science seemed somehow underrate and overrate respectively in terms of using titles.

#### **4.2.2 Analysis of Abstract in Journal Articles**

The abstract is the short summary of an article. Most readers first scan the abstract in order to decide whether reading the rest of the article would be worthwhile. The abstract has to start with a brief theme sentence to orientate the reader about the overall issue addressed in the article. This sentence should grab the readers' attention. Abstract section consists of main purpose, academic and practical importance, briefly description of methodology used, summary of main findings, statement of the conclusion, and the practical or managerial implications of the entire study.

The 'abstract' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 1: Use of Abstract in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Abstract</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	+	+
Economics	+	+	+	+
INFOLIB	-	-	+	+
Engineering	+	+	+	+
Political Science	-	-	-	-
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	-	-	-	-

The above table showed that genres i.e. ELT, Economics, Engineering, Sociology and Anthropology, Medical Science, Agriculture and Animal Science, and Business Study had mentioned 'abstract' in each and every articles. But Journal articles in Voice of History and Political Science did not consist of 'abstract' in each article. Similarly, in case of INFOLIB journal, abstracts were not used properly.

While observing the use of abstract in the articles of ELT journals minutely, it was found that all the abstracts contained aims, materials, results and conclusion in every short-cut form. As in the ELT journal articles abstract was used containing title, objective, methodology and findings in the articles of Economics journals. Similarly, Engineering, Sociology and Anthropology, Agriculture and Animal Science, and Business Study journal articles had mentioned abstract including the required elements of abstract in attractive manner whereas, the articles of Medical Science in terms of abstract were similar but were not compatible in a single paragraph. By the same token, only two-fourth (3 and 4) of INFOLIB journal mentioned abstract.

Since the abstract is short summary of the whole article but not an introduction, it is not appropriate to include introduction in name of abstract. The very thing

was found in article three of INFOLIB; form did not match content. But the article four was found to be rule bound.

#### 4.2.3 Analysis of 'Keywords' in Journal Articles

Keywords serve as hooks that draw the attention of potential readers. The keywords should preferably reflect the discipline, sub-discipline, theme, research design and context of the study where appropriate, frequently used synonyms may be used as separate words.

The 'Keywords' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 2: Use of Keywords in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Keywords</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	+	+
Economics	-	-	-	-
INFOLIB	-	-	-	-
Engineering	+	+	+	+
Political Science	-	-	-	-
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	-	-	-	-

The above table shows that ELT, Engineering, Sociology and Anthropology, Medical Science, Agriculture and Business studies articles had included keywords but the articles from Economics, INFOLIB, Political Science and Voice of History had not mentioned keywords.

Although ELT, EConomics, Engineering, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, and Business Study articles had included keywords, it was found that the keywords were not written or typed in 'sentence case' and 'Italics' form.

#### 4.2.4 Analysis of 'Introduction' in Journal Articles

The researcher introduces the reader to the topic with a brief lead-up. It most tell the reader about the subject matter of the study, it necessity, and appropriateness. The introduction most grabs the readers' attention, interest, desire and action.

The 'Introduction' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 3: Use of Introduction in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Introduction</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	-	+
Economics	+	-	+	+
INFOLIB	+	-	-	-
Engineering	+	+	+	+
Political Science	+	+	-	-
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	+	+	+	+

The above table showed that there was not avoided 'Introduction' as a topic of journal articles in the journals namely Engineering, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, Business Studies, and Voice of History. But one-fourth article was submitted to the journal avoiding 'Introduction' in ELT and Economics, three-fourth in INFOLIB and two-fourth in Political Science.

In article one, two and four of ELT journals, the specific subject matter, purpose, context as well as core research issues were indicated. On the contrary, in the article three, there was backdrop instead of introduction which made the introduction part unclear. Similarly, all the journal articles, in the case of introduction had explained the study's main contribution as well as the units of the analysis of the study. As a whole, they were effective and well written parts of the articles.

#### **4.2.5 Analysis of 'Literature Review/Background/Conceptual Framework ' in Journal Articles**

The Literature review represents the theoretical core of an article. The term; 'Literature' is employed to include anything appropriate to the topic. The purpose of literature review is to look again at what other researchers have done regarding the specific topic. Literature review consists of critical integration and synthesis which helps to form a new connection for the further research. The 'Literature Review' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 4: Use of Literature Review in Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Literature Review/background/ conceptual framework</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	+	+
Economics	+	-	+	-
INFOLIB	+	-	-	+
Engineering	-	-	+	-
Political Science	+	+	+	+
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	-	-	-	-
Agriculture and Animal Science	-	-	-	-
Business Study	+	+	-	-
Voice of History	+	+	+	+



The above table showed that ELT, Political Science and Voice of History had used Literature Review in the entire articles. Each one-fourth article had not submitted 'Literature Review' to Economics, Sociology and Business Study journals and there was only one INFOLIB journal of having two-fourth articles avoided 'Literature Review'. Similarly, three-fourth articles of Engineering Journals had not used the term. Journals of Medical and Agricultures, unlike other areas, had not included review in total selected articles.

Critically analyzing the articles of ten journals, one of the articles included 'Literature Review' directly. They just consisted of 'Background', 'Conceptual framework' or 'conceptual development'.

#### **4.2.6 Analysis of 'Methods/Methodology' in Journal Articles**

The Methods/Methodology section describes the steps followed in the execution of the study and also provides a brief justification for the research method used. It contains a section of the theoretical framework in line with the directions suggested by the statement of problem, hypothesis and the review of the literature. It is extremely important that a reader who is not involved in the study will know exactly what is done and why. The 'Methods/Methodology' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 5: Use of Methods in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Methods/Methodology</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	-	-	+
Economics	+	-	+	-
INFOLIB	-	-	-	-
Engineering	-	+	-	-
Political Science	-	-	-	-
Sociology and Anthropology	+	-	-	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	-	-	-	-

The above table showed that there were two journals viz. ELT and Sociology which have used 'Methods/methodology' only in two articles in each discipline and two-fourth articles of them had not mentioned it. Similarly in only one article of Engineering, there was the use of Methods. Likewise, Economics, Medical Science, Agriculture and Business Study had used methods in all of the chosen articles. But on the contrary, the articles under Political Science, INFOLIB, and Voice of History had not made the use of methods.

First article of ELT journal had not clearly presented the methodology sections. Instead of it, there was the description of approaches. But unlike article one, article four clearly mentioned methodology containing sampling procedure, data collection methods, questionnaire and interview schedule. In the two-fourth articles (1 and 3) of Economic journals had mentioned methods sections but those sections were not as clear as the article four of ELT. Similarly two-fourth article (1 and 4) of Sociology and Anthropology clearly mentioned methodological aspects with sample population, data collection procedure, interview schedule as a tool for data collection. There was the use of material and methods in article two of engineering journal by utilizing the measurement tools based on experimentations.

In the journal articles of Business Study, there was not the use of methodology of the study by selecting the area of study; sample population, data collection procedure, and interview were tools for data collection. Similarly, all articles of Agriculture journal, there was the use of materials and methods with experimental design. As in the journals articles of engineering and Animal Science, the articles of medical Science journals had used materials and methods for the research study.

#### **4.2.7 Analysis of 'Results/Findings' in Journal Articles**

This result/findings section summarizes the data collected for a study in the form of descriptive analysis and also reports the result of relevant inferential statistical analysis conducted on the data. The result is reported in sufficient

detail so that the reader can see which statistical analysis were conducted and why, and to justify the conclusions. In short articles or reports of single empirical studies, the results and discussion sections are sometimes combined. There is no fixed recipe for presenting the findings of a study. Depending on the nature of the study and research objectives, it can be reported additional descriptive statistics, such as comparative descriptive statistics for sample sub-groups, cross-tabulations or graphs.

The 'Results/Findings' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 6: Use of Results/Findings in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>Results/Findings</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	-	-	-	+
Economics	-	-	-	-
INFOLIB	-	-	-	-
Engineering	-	+	+	-
Political Science	-	-	-	-
Sociology and Anthropology	+	-	-	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	-	-	+
Voice of History	-	-	-	-

The above table showed that Medical Science and Agriculture journals had employed it in the entire selected articles. But in comparison to them, four disciplines; Voice of History, Economics, INFOLIB, and Political Science articles had not included 'Results/Findings'. One article of ELT, each two article of Engineering, Business Study and Sociology have not used it.

In the article 4 of ELT journal, there was the use of findings but not 'result'. The very findings had concisely provided enough detail to properly justify the concluding part of the article. Results of Engineering journal articles (2 and 3) were presented on the basis of experimentation. The findings of sociology and Anthropology journal articles were shown in an outline form as well as in common form with discussion. Similarly, Medical Science articles had included 'results' in tabulation as well as analyzing form under both result and discussion. The same way of result was reported in the articles of Agriculture and Animal Science journals. In the same way, in the Business Study one-fourth article was included the topic findings with the description of the data from tables.

#### **4.2.8 Analysis of ' Discussion/Summary/Conclusion' in Journal Articles**

In many ways, the discussion section is the most important section in an article because it is the last thing a reader sees, it can have a major impact on the readers' perceptions of the article and of the research conducted.

The 'Discussion/Summary/Conclusion' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 7: Use of Discussion/Summary/Conclusion in the articles of ten different journals**

<b>Discussion/Summary/Conclusion</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	+	+
Economics	-	-	-	+
INFOLIB	+	+	-	+
Engineering	-	+	-	-
Political Science	-	+	+	+
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	-	+	-	+

The above table indicated that the each and every article from ELT, Sociology, Medical, Agriculture and Business Study consisted of 'Discussion/ Summary/ Conclusion'. One article from INFOLIB and Political Science, three articles from Economics, two articles from Voice of History, and three articles from Engineering had not made the use of it as their topic.

All the articles of ELT journals included conclusions of the entire study. Article 4 of Economic journal had made the use of concluding remark of the text whereas in article 1, there was the use of conclusion and recommendations at once. The articles of Political Science, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, Business Study and Voice of History were written with summary of findings, discussion as well as conclusion moderately.

#### 4.2.9 Analysis of 'References' in Journal Articles

References refer to both bibliography and work cited. Bibliography is a list of primary text and secondary materials-books and journals should be in corporate. On the other hand, a work cited page is a list of sources that have found room in the in-text citation of the research document.

The 'References' used in different journal articles which have been presented comparatively in the following table.

**Table no. 8: Use of References in the Articles of Ten Different Journals**

<b>References</b>				
<b>Journals</b>	<b>Article 1</b>	<b>Article 2</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Article 4</b>
ELT	+	+	+	+
Economics	+	+	+	+
INFOLIB	-	-	+	+
Engineering	+	+	+	+
Political Science	+	+	+	+
Sociology and Anthropology	+	+	+	+
Medical Science	+	+	+	+
Agriculture and Animal Science	+	+	+	+
Business Study	+	+	+	+
Voice of History	+	+	+	+

The above table shows that references have solely been used in the entire articles of ELT, Economics, Engineering, Political Science, Sociology, Medical Science, Agriculture, Business Study, and Voice of History except the two forth articles of INFOLIB Journal.

The journals had mostly used 'bibliography' and 'works cited' as references. It could be underestimated the two-forth articles published from INFOLIB journal were not authentic as they had not mentioned any source.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Summary

The major focus of this research was to find out the use and abuse of terms viz. title, abstract, keywords, introduction, literature review, methodology, results, discussion as well as references in the articles of academic journals. The ten journals of different fields and four articles from each journal were taken for this study. The ten journals were ELT, Economics, INFOLIB, Engineering, Sociology, Agriculture, Business Study, Voice of History, Political Science, and Medical Science. I selected forty articles from those journals by using purposive non-random sampling procedure so as to find out common rules, structures as well as format highly accepted in academic disciplines. I carefully presented the data in tables and then analyzed and interpreted it under the different headings to achieve the objectives by using descriptive analytical tools comparatively.

The following table presented the summary of data analysis by showing the status of ten different articles.

**Table no. 9: Status of Ten Different Articles**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Journals</b>	<b>Position</b>
First	Business Study	I
	ELT	II
	Sociology and Anthropology	III
Second	Medical Science	IV
	Agriculture and Animal Science	IV
	Engineering	V
Third	Economics	VI
	Political Science	VII
	INFOLIB	VIII
	Voice of History	IX

I summarized the whole research by separating the ranks of the journals on the basis of terms used in the articles. Some writers of academic articles had mentioned terms by following the common rules systematically but others violated. Three journals- Business Study, ELT, and Sociology and Anthropology fell into the first rank. Two articles of Business Study- article one and four used all the terms. Similarly, article one of Sociology and article four of ELT included these terms with cent percent. Therefore, Business Study, ELT and Sociology were the journals to follow the rules.

Similarly, three journals-Medical Science, Agriculture and Animal Science, and Engineering reached to have a second grade. Four articles of both Medical and Agriculture journals did not include the term 'literature review' but the rest terms were solely used in all articles. On the other hand, in the case of Engineering journal articles, writers had avoided some terms but in totality these terms or elements were used either in article one or two or three or four. Therefore, journals of Medical Science, Agriculture, and Engineering had the articles written somehow violating the rules and deserved the second rank in writing academic journal articles. Likewise, journals of Economics, INFOLIB, Voice of History and Political Science have extremely violated the rules of academic writing. Therefore, these journals categorized in third rank.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

While wrapping up the aforementioned things, in this research some journal writers wrote their articles systematically and some did not. Writing an academic article is a challenging, but very fulfilling, endeavour. Those journal writers who followed ordinance terms in the process of writing article considered as perfect ones. Moreover, success in writing articles depends on writers having proper knowledge regarding common rules, format as well as contents. However, among the ten different journals, journals of ELT, Sociology and Business Study were rule bound. But the rest seven journals- Economics, Engineering, Agriculture, Political Science, Voice of History,



INFOLIB, and medical Science somehow violated the rules. And quality of those journal articles was in degrading form.

Although the summary of the study reflects as it is in the findings, it is very important to remember the autonomous structure of every academic field. It is not that the style or format of writing academic articles in all genres should be identical and these articles pose the elements like abstract, keywords and so forth. It varies in accordance with the nature of the study. Every academic field has its own rule, format as well as style. In the case of Economic journals, each and every four article selected for the study has not mentioned the so called terms viz. keywords and results. From this we can conclude that most of the Economic journal articles consist of title, abstract, introduction, literature review/conceptual framework, methods, discussion, and references. That is the autonomous structure of Economic journal articles. Similarly, INFOLIB journals have not mentioned keywords, methods as well as results. Likewise, abstract, keywords, methods and result in political science journals, literature review in medical science and Agriculture and Animal science, and abstract, keywords, methods, results and discussion in Voice of History journals are not used. So, they have their own autonomous structures.

### **5.3 Implications**

This study has aimed to find out common rules, format, and contains employed by the writers on the process of writing academic journal articles. This research will be fruitful for those scholars, learners who are interested in writing journal articles in the field of academic area. In fact academic journal articles are rule bound articles. It is not so difficult to follow the rules, format of academic journals writing but the terms title, abstract, keywords, introduction, literature review, methodology, findings, conclusion and references are made difficult to understand for one who is not familiar with writing academic journal articles. The following recommendations and pedagogical implications have been listed for the betterment for its results.

- a. The elements incorporated in the journal articles should be taught practically from the lower levels of academic field.
- b. During the research period, it was found that most of the academic journal article writers follow the rules and some of the writers violated the structures while writing academic journal articles. So while teaching to the students of writing should be emphasized and considered the common rules of academic journal writing.
- c. While teaching the academic journal articles, the teachers should make students familiar with the journal of academic and non - academic, national and international journal articles with their separate discipline.
- d. The curriculum designers/planners should include academic journal writing in the textbook of higher secondary to master degree level mainly to make the students familiar with the format, style of academic journal writing. Similarly, they should design the textbooks for those who want to make their profession better under different fields of academic journal writing by writing the related texts for newspaper and journals or area related fields like NELTA.
- e. While writing academic journal articles, the new innovators/comers or writers should be familiar with the mainstream or autonomous structures of academic journal writing.

## **Appendix-I**

### **The list of collected data from the Journals**

I collected 40 articles from ten different areas viz. ELT, Economic, INFOLIB, Engineering, Medical Science, Sociology and Anthropology, Business Studies, Agriculture and Animal Science, Political Science, and Voice of History. I took 4 texts from each genre.

#### **1. English Language Teaching (ELT)**

I collected 4 articles from ELT journals published from Nepal English Language Teaching Association (NELTA). They are listed as follows;

##### **NELTA, Vol. 14, No. 1-2 December 2009**

1. Processing Instruction: An Input Based Approach for Teaching Grammar

##### **NELTA, Vol. 16, No. 1-2 December 2011**

2. Blogging as a Means of Professional Development for ELT Professionals
3. On Nepalese English Discourse Granting Citizenship to English in Nepal via Corpus Building
4. Learner Perceptions and Teacher Beliefs about Learner Autonomy in Language Learning

#### **2. Economic Journals**

I collected 4 articles from Economic Journal of Nepal published Central Department of Economics, TU. They are listed as follows;

##### **The Economic Journal of Nepal, Vol. 31, No. 2, April-June 2008**

1. Devolution and Fiscal Governance in Pakistan: Capacities Need to be Addressed
2. A Note on Rural Development Strategy with Focus on Agriculture

**The Economic Journal of Nepal, Vol.30, No.1, January-March 2007**

3. Literature Review in Humanities and Social Sciences
4. Financing Higher Education in Nepal: A Challenging Task

**3. Information of Library Science (INFOLIB)**

I collected 4 texts from INFOLIB journals published from Library and Information Science Students' Association (LISSA). They are listed as follows;

**INFOLIB, Vol. 5, October 2012**

1. Document Freedom Day: Relevance in Library and Information Service in Nepal
2. Marketing of Information Product and Service

**INFOLIB, Vol. 4, No. 4, May 2011**

3. Communication
4. Right to Information: Need of the Day

**4. Engineering**

I collected 4 articles from Kathmandu University Journal of Science, Engineering and Technology. They are listed below;

**KU Journal of Science, Engineering and Technology, Vol. 8, No. II, December, 2012**

1. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order Linear Differential Equation
2. Electrical Characterization of Aluminum (Al) Thin Films Measured by Using Four-point Probe Method

**KU Journal of Science, Engineering and Technology, Vol. 7, No. I, September, 2011**

3. A Fixed Point Theorem in Menger Space
4. Common Fixed Points under Lipschitz Type Condition

## **5. Political Science**

I collected 4 articles from Journal of Political Science. They are as follows;

### **Journal of Political Science: Vol. VII, 2004**

1. The Peace Zone Concept and its Utility in Nepalese Foreign Policy
2. Bhutanese Refugee Problem and Multi-Track Approach of Nepalese Diplomacy

### **Journal of Political Science: Vol. VIII, 2005**

3. India as a Factor in Pakistan-Nepal Relations
4. The Relation between 'Democracy & Participation'

## **6. Sociology and Anthropology**

I collected 4 texts from Sociology and Anthropology. They are listed bellow;

### **Dhaulagiri Journal of Sociology and Anthropology, Vol. 4, 2010**

1. AIDS Awareness and Educating Adolescents about Contraception Techniques: A Sociological Study of Parents and Teachers
2. Kulpuja: A Ritual and Behavior of Magar

### **Dhaulagiri Journal of Sociology and Anthropology, Vol. 5, 2011**

3. The Art of Survival: Policy Choices for Nepal
4. Patients' and Caretakers' Satisfaction at Western Regional Hospital, Pokhara, Nepal

## **7. Medical Science**

I collected 4 texts from Journal of College of Medical Science-Nepal. They are listed below;

### **Journal of College of Medical Science-Nepal, 2011, Vol-7, No-4**

1. Effect of iron deficiency anemia on lipid peroxidation and antioxidant systems
4. Psychiatric morbidities of elderly psychiatry out-patients in a tertiary-care hospital

**Journal of College of Medical Science-Nepal, 2012, Vol-8, No-3**

2. Microbial infection and antibiotic patterns among intensive care unit patients in a tertiary hospital in Central Nepal
3. A study of clinic-demographic profile of patients with dissociative disorder

**8. Agriculture and Animal Science**

I collected 4 articles from Journal of Agriculture and Animal Science. They are as follows;

**J. Inst. Agric. Anim. Sci. Vol. 26 (2005)**

1. Alternative to off-season Sugar Supplement Feeding of Honeybees
3. Yield and Yield Components Response to Defoliation of Spring Wheat Genotypes with Different Level of Resistance to Helminthosporium Leaf Blight

**J. Inst. Agric. Anim. Sci. Vol. 27 (2006)**

2. Influence of Spring Season Crop Residue on Productivity of Rice-Wheat Cropping System
4. Growth and Persistence of Common Temperature Pasture Species under Low Light and Low R:FR Ratio

**9. Business Studies**

I collected 4 texts from the Journal of Nepalese Business Studies. They are listed below;

**The Journal of Nepalese Business Studies, Vol. V, No. 1, Dec. 2008**

1. Credit for the Poor: The Experience of Rural Development Scheme of Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd.
2. Major Turns in Planned Development of Nepal

**The Journal of Nepalese Business Studies, Vol. VII, No. 1, Dec. 2010/11**

3. Tracing the Path to Universal Banking: The Indian Scenario
4. Women's Managerial Level Involvement in Tourism Sector in Pokhara

**10. Voice of History**

I collected 4 articles from Journals of Voice of History. They are listed as follows;

**Voice of History, Vol. XVI, No. 2 (Dec. 2001)**

1. British Gurkha Recruitment: A Historical Perspective
2. Nepali *Satyagraha*: Spring 1947 and Pandit Nehru

**Voice of History, Vol. XVII-XX**

3. Religious Syncretism and Context of Buddhism in Medieval Nepal
4. British Residents at the Court of Nepal During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

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