

**A DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF THE ABSTRACTS OF
RESEARCH PAPERS FROM THE JOURNALS OF THE
MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE**

PhD DISSERTATION

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ABSTRACT

Abstracts play an important role in the process of writing research papers and the analysis of abstracts can be essential for disciplinary discourse as it shows much about the conventions of the disciplinary discourse community. The aim of the present study is to analyse the generic structure of the abstracts of ten different disciplines published by Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science (MAAS) from 2004 to 2011. In order to investigate such variations and similarities, a model with five-move structure based on Weissberg and Buker (1990), Hyland (2000) and Samraj (2003) was constructed and employed in analyzing the abstracts. The findings illustrated that all the disciplines under study employed different and almost unrelated move structures. However, the percents of the use of five basic move structure of abstract were significantly low. Most of the abstracts were found to be in line with the tenses of the practice of the discourse community. Moreover, a significant number of abstract was identified to be in the range of word limit laid down by MAAS. The findings of the analysis will be of great help to coursebook writers and language teachers to facilitate material development and to improve the writing skill of the students. Moreover, this study has implications for the researchers

to raise awareness of generic structure of abstracts and to improve their abstract writing.