



Title	Citation practice found in research articles published by Myanmar Academy Of Arts And Sciences (MAAS)
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Issue Date	2015

## **CITATION PRACTICE FOUND IN RESEARCH ARTICLES PUBLISHED BY THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (MAAS)**

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### **Abstract**

In the past two decades, there has been a steadily increasing number of studies which pay a stress on different aspects of research writing. Among the discourse elements in research writing, citations are an indispensable feature of an academic paper. Citation is important to any academic writer. This research investigates the citation practice found in the research articles published by the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science (MAAS). The function of each citation was identified on the basis of Thompson and Tribble's (2001) model. The function of integral citation and non-integral citation were used in this research. The integral citation includes three types: verb controlling, naming and non-citation whereas the non-integral citation includes four types: source, identification, reference and origin. However, in science specialization, non-integral citation outnumbers integral citation. Non-integral citations of source are more significantly seen in the articles of science specializations than in those of arts specializations. The use of non-integral citation of origin was not found in either of the research articles of arts and science. Integral citation of verb controlling was more prominently seen in the science articles than in the arts articles.

Key words: integral citation, non-integral citation

### **Introduction**

Citation plays as a key role in academic writing. Proper citations enhance the success of a paper. The term citation generally refers to "a reference to a resource ( Szypszak,2011). However, some researchers define citation with reference to their various functions. Citation is divided into integral and non-integral based on Thompson and Tribble's (2001) model. Pioneering the research of citation analysis from an applied linguistic perspective, Swales (1981, 1990) created clear distinctions between non-integral citation and integral citation forms. The formers are citations that are outside the sentence, usually placed within the brackets, and which play no explicit grammatical role in the sentence, while the latter are those that play an explicit grammatical role within a sentence. As the name suggests, integral citation integrate the name of the cited author within the paragraph. It is integrated, as Swales (1990) points out, by using an integral-verb or by using a noun phrase. An example of integral verb citation is the citation of the author named Swales in the preceding sentence. It is considered integral citation because it is integrated within this paragraph by using an integral-verb," points out". The other type of integral citation is integrating the name of the author by using a noun-phrase. This type is commonly referred to as integral-naming as described by Mansourizadeh and Ahmad (2011). An example of this type is the citation used in the preceding sentence in which the names of the authors Mansourizadeh and Ahmad are integrated into this paragraph by occupying the position of a noun phrase. In non-integral citation, by contrast, the name of the author is not integrated within the paragraph (Thompson and Tribble, 2001). It is introduced by giving the name between brackets without using any integral verbs or occupying a noun phrase as shown in the citation of Thompson and Tribble in the preceding sentence.

Although citations are important in academic writing, they are also a source of considerable difficulty for most novice writers. This research aims to investigate the citation practice found in the research articles published by the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science (MAAS).

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There are many reasons for doing this research because citation is an essential feature of an academic paper and there has been a steadily increasing number of studies investigating different aspects. Among them, some of the reasons for making references by Hyland (2000) are (i) to know the use of citation and (ii) to point out the differences and similarities between arts and sciences. Citation, or reference to another's work, is an important academic feature among the many devices that help achieve an author's communicative purposes.

Citation, or making references to other texts, is the distinguishing feature of academic writing. Citation is crucial in any research to mention the work and to build on the works of others in order to evolve research further (Buchanan, 2007; Eom, 2008; Mitchell, 1996 and Wohlin, 2008).

Citation helps authors justify the topic of their research the method/ methodology employed and/or the authors' claims. While Harwood stresses the supportive function of citation, Statsky (2009) emphasizes the signposting function as he refers to citation as an address which enables interested persons to find what has been cited. Signposting citations has several functions, such as referring readers to other sources, helping less informed readers, keeping the argument on track, and saving space (Harwood, 2009). In this definition, the suggestive function of citation is stressed. Harwood considers citation as the building function in which the building citations use sources, methods or ideas as foundations to be developed further. Finally, the credit function is a term used to refer to the situation when the citation is used to credit other authors for ideas or methods, and this method is very important to avoid plagiarism. Similarly, Van Noorden (2010) states that citation enables authors to acknowledge their intellectual debts. Based on preceding literature, citation is thus a practice of referring to a source to credit an author and /or support an argument, signpost information to retrieve a document or develop further research.

The aim of this research is to investigate citation practice found in the research articles published by the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Sciences (MAAS).

The two objectives of this research are:

- (i) to explore integral citation practice of arts and science articles published by the MAAS and
- (ii) to find out non-integral citation practice of arts and science articles published by the MAAS.

## **Literature Review**

All the citation researches reviewed above focus solely on research literatures (for a more comprehensive review of citation studies from the fields of Information Science, Sociology of Science, and Applied Linguistics). Very few existing citation researches distinguish professional literature from the research literature of sciences and arts. The few available citation-related results based on the broad distinction between scientific literature (i.e. literature of scientific fields) and professional literatures (i.e. literature of professional fields) can be summarized here. First, materials cited in professional literature are on average older than those cited in scientific literature (Hurt and Line). Second, professional literature display a markedly low average number of citations per article as compared to scientific literature (Nour and Schrader). Third, professional literature tend to cite more non-journal publications ( Garfield) Professional researchers also tend to use only materials published in their native languages (Fitzgibbons). Further, as Bonzi(1982) and Price, Newell and Miller(1982) point out, in professional fields, compared with the practitioner-oriented journals, the research-oriented journals appear to be more similar to the journals in research disciplines in terms of the use of references. Kajberg(1996) further reveals that the practitioner-oriented journals in Library and Information Science contain more "hidden references" than the research-oriented journals.

In this research, according to Thompson and Tribbles' (2001) framework integral citation and non-integral citation were divided into sub-types.

### Integral Citations

- i. **Verb controlling:** The citation acts as the agent that controls a verb, in active or passive voice. For example, Davis and Olson (1985) defined a management information system more precisely as programme.
- ii. **Naming:** The citation is a noun phrase or a part of a noun phrase. For example, According to Harling and Thompson (1983), typical price elasticities of demand for poultry products are used in Canada.
- iii. **Non-citation:** There is a reference to another writer but the name is given without a year reference. It is most commonly used when the reference has been applied earlier in the text and the writer does not want to repeat. For example, The classical form of the disease described by Mark, causes significant mortality losses.

### Non-integral citations

- i. **Source:** This function is to attribute a proposition to another author. The proposition might be an assertion, such as in the factive report of findings in other research, or attribution of an idea to another. For example, Citation is central...because it can provide justification for arguments (Gibert,1976)
- ii. **Identification:** It identifies an agent within the sentence it refers to. For example, A simulation model has therefore been developed to incorporate all the important features in the population dynamics (Potts, 1980).
- iii. **Reference:** This type of citation is usually signaled by the inclusion of the directive “see”. For example, DFID has changed its policy recently with regard to ELT
- iv. **Origin:** The citation indicates the originator of a concept or a product. For example, The software package used was Wordsmith Tools (Scott,1996)

### Research Methodology

A total of 16 research articles, 9 from the MAAS journals published in (2010) and 7 from that published in (2012), were used as tools for this research. All the abstracts, appendices, references, tables, and figures were removed so as not to distort results. A special note should be made concerning the labels of “Science” and “arts.” In this research “Science” and “Arts” were defined arbitrarily according to the affiliations of the authors.

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science journals were used as two mini-corpora for analysis in the research investigation. Based on Thompson and Tribble’s (2001) model, the journals from the MAAS were analyzed to investigate what kind of citation was used more than the other. This selection was based also on the researchers’ knowledge of citation. Citations in each section\_ Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Discussion and Conclusion were identified and recorded. They were further categorized as either integral and non-integral. Finally, the date of each reference was examined to determine its recency. Frequency analysis was performed and comparison was made between the two years and citation patterns were also examined in education. For example, Budd and Magnuson (2009) found that citation practices have remained stable over time, and that there was consistency in citation pattern across the two investigated journals.

### Data Collection

Adopting Swales’ (1990) categorization, the employed citation patterns were analyzed and categorized into two type: integral citation and non-integral citation. Each citation has its functions. Non-integral citation has the functions of source, identification, reference and origin.

The integral citation was observed in terms of verb controlling, naming and non-citation. Firstly, citation practice found in the research articles published by the MAAS is respectively described in tables.

There are twenty three articles in table (1) and non-integral citation practice found in Introduction of Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry research article in Vol. X, No. 1, March 2012 is mentioned.

### **Data Analysis**

In this section, total number of integral citation and non-integral citation found in the research articles of science published by the MAAS, total number of integral citation and non-integral citation found in the research articles of arts published by the MAAS and total number of citations in terms of citation types will be analyzed.

As shown in Table (1), in the research articles of science, total number of integral citation was 235 (22%) and non-integral citation was 854 (78%). Thus, it was found that in the research articles of science, non-integral citation was used more than integral citation.

According to table(2), in the research articles of arts, it was found that total number of integral citation was 139(38%) and non-integral citation was 226(62%). Therefore, it can also be investigated that in the research articles of arts, non-integral citation was used more than integral citation.

Table (3) shows total number of citation found in the research articles (arts & science) in terms of citation type. It was learned that total number of non-integral citation was 1080(74%). It can be seen that the use of source and reference were more than other citations. And then total number of integral citation was 374(26%). Integral citation of non-citation was not found at all.

When the collected data were analyzed, it was found that more non-integral citation of source was used than other functions of non-integral citation in the research articles published by the MAAS.

In non-integral citation, total number of non-integral citation was 1080 (74%). We can see the use of source and reference were used more than other citations. Non-integral citation of identification and origin were not found at all.

In integral citation, total number of integral citation was 374 (26%). Integral citation of verb controlling was more prominently seen in both science and arts articles. Integral citation of non-citation was not found at all.

When the collected data were analyzed, it was found that more non-integral citation of source was used than other functions of non-integral citation in the research articles published by MAAS. It was also found that more integral citations of verb controlling were used than other functions of integral citation in the research articles published by MAAS.

### **Data interpretation**

Each type of citation was highlighted and counted for frequency. Then they were further examined and the function of each of the citations was identified. When the collected data were analyzed, it was found that more non-integral citations of source were used than other functions of non-integral citation in the research articles published by the MAAS. It was also found that more integral citations of verb controlling were used than other functions of integral citation in the research articles published by the MAAS.

Figure (1) shows percentage of citation found in different sections of science articles. It is obvious that in introduction section, citations were most used. There is no citation in the literature section. It can be found the least use of citation in the conclusion section.

Figure (2) indicates the percentage of citation found in introduction, literature review, methodology, discussion and conclusion sections of research articles of arts. More citations were found in introduction section than in other sections. After introduction section, it was in literature

section that more citation were used. The lowest number of citation was found in conclusion section.

### **Comparison of citation practice between the research articles of science and arts**

According to figure (3), frequencies of citations found in the research articles of science and arts are different. In terms of the integral citation types, there seemed to be a substantial difference between the research articles of science and arts. The overall percentage of integral citations in the research articles of arts was (38%) and that of the research articles of science was (22%). Therefore, the overall percentage of integral citation found in the research articles of science was less than that of arts. The integral citation of naming was remarkably less than the integral citation of verb controlling. The use of non-citation type was not found at all in the research articles published by the MAAS.

In comparison, the research articles of science used both non-integral citation and integral citation more frequently than research articles of arts in every function. However, it can be found that non-integral citation of identification and integral citation of non-citation were not entirely used in all research articles.

### **Findings and Discussion**

In this research, citation practice is analyzed for MAAS journals through the theory of Thompson and Tribble's (2001) model. Although there are four types of non-integral citation: source, identification, reference and origin according to Thompson and Tribble's model, only two types of non-integral citation: source and reference are found in this research. There are also three types of integral citation: verb controlling, naming and non-citation. Among them, the two of integral citation: verb controlling and naming are found in this research. There is no non-citation of integral citation in this research. The total number of non-integral citation is used 1080 instances of this research. The total number of non-integral citation of source more used 1031 than other functions of citation. Another non-integral citation of reference used 49 instances in this research. In this research, the total number of integral citation is used 374 instances. The use of integral citation of verb controlling is 350 instances in this research and the total number of naming in 24 ones. One of the most prominent findings of the present research is that the introduction section included the highest number of citations. Another important finding is that the research articles of science used many more citations than the research articles of arts. It comes to the differences between the research articles of science and arts. The number of non-integral citation of identified and origin were not found in both the research articles of science and arts. On the other hand, the integral citation of non-citation was not found too at all. These are the similarities of the research article of science and arts. According to Thompson and Tribble's (2001) model, the most noticeable of the research articles of science journals are more frequently than the arts journals.

The finding of the research reveals that the research articles of science and arts used the integral citation less than non-integral citation. The research articles of science totally include 1089 citations. The lower frequency of citation in the research articles of arts was observed in conclusion and the highest incidence was noticed in introduction section. In contrast with the research articles of science and arts, the non-integral of citation is remarkably more than the integral of citation. The use of non-citation was not found in both the research articles of science and arts published by MAAS at all.

### **Conclusion**

Citation is an essential feature of an academic paper. Citation is divided into integral citation and non-integral citation based on Thompson and Tribble's model. In this research, citation practice found in research articles published by the MAAS have been analyzed through

the theory of Thompson and Tribble's model. As seen in the findings, it can be found that four types of non-integral citation are source, identification, reference and origin. The research is done focusing on non-integral citation of source. The three types of integral citation: verb controlling, naming and non-citation are used in this research. It was also found that more integral citation of verb controlling was used than other function of integral citation in the research articles published by the MAAS.

The findings of the research show that the research articles of science and arts used more citation in the introduction section than other sections. But citation was not found in the literature review section of the research articles of science. Both the research articles of science and arts included the least number of citations in the conclusion. Moreover, based on the findings, it can also be seen that both research articles used more citation in the introduction section. After selecting the research articles, word count was run on in order to determine the quantity. Then the data was sorted to identify and classify each type of citation. However, the frequency of integral and non-integral citation was calculated, to detect the possible differences in the citation classes and judge whether the differences were significant. By taking Thompson and Tribble's work as a starting point in fifteen journals of each citation were examined and analyzed by the functions of citation.

In this research, the differences and similarities in citation practices between the research articles of science and arts have been discussed. The varieties of functions have been classified to express the citation between the research articles of science and arts. In the research articles of science, non-integral citation outnumber integral citation. It can be seen that the research articles of science and arts used both non-integral citation and integral citation in this research. Therefore, the researchers can be considered to be aware of proper way of using citation practice to write more effectively and persuasively

Table (1): Total number of integral citation and non-integral citation found in the research article of science

Section	Integral Citations	Non-integral Citations
Introduction	52	500
Literature Review	-	-
Methodology	6	117
Discussion	142	225
Conclusion	35	12
Total	235 (22%)	854 (78%)

Table (2): Total number of integral citation and non-integral citation found in the research articles

Section	Integral Citations	Non-integral Citations
Introduction	55	146
Literature Review	51	31
Methodology	14	22

Discussion	15	25
Conclusion	4	2
Total	139 (38%)	226 (62%)

Table (3): Total number of citations found in research articles published by MAAS

Types of Citations	Classification	Frequencies of research articles			
		Science	Arts	Total	
Non-integral	Source	820	211	1031	1080 (74%)
	Identification	-	-	-	
	Reference	34	15	49	
	Origin	-	-	-	
Integral	Verb Controlling	220	130	350	374 (26%)
	Naming	15	9	24	
	Non-citation	-	-	-	
Total		1089	365	1454	

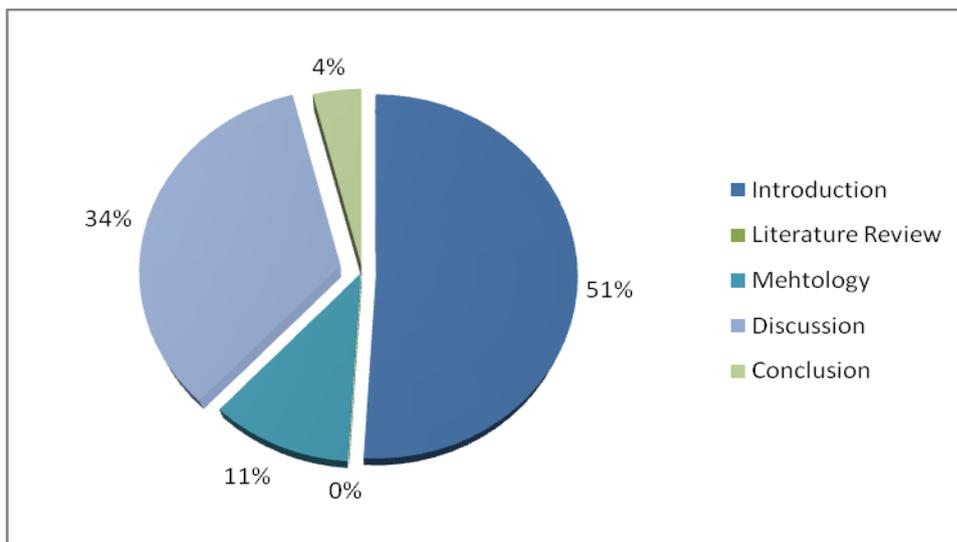


Figure (1): Citations found in the research of science

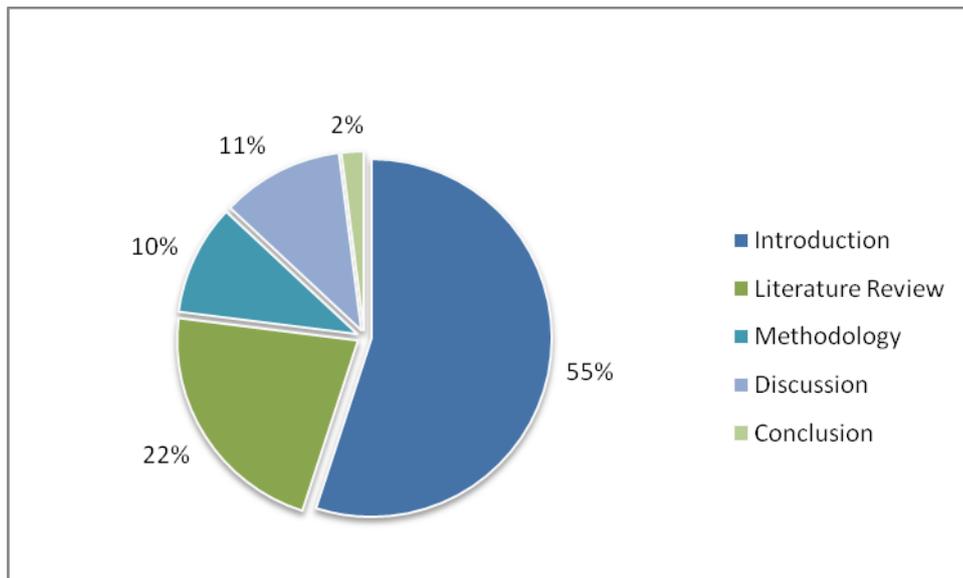


Figure (2): Citations found in the research articles of arts

Figure (3): Comparison of integral citation practice and non-integral citation practice of the research articles of science and arts

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