**Dissertation writing**

**Outline of the dissertation**

* Front Page
* Introduction
* Materials and Methods
* Results
* Discussion
* Conclusion
* Bibliographic references

**1. Cover page**

The cover page must contain at least the following elements:

* Title
* Authors
* Possible supervisor(s)
* The title of the memory type
* Level and title of the training
* The current academic year

The title must reflect and announce the content of the text with maximum precision and conciseness. Informative words must be placed at the beginning of the title; it’s a strong position that commands attention.

**2. Introduction**

A special page is usually devoted to the introduction. The various chapters that follow depend on this statement. The introduction has two purposes:

* Give the reader a clear and concise idea of ​​the subject covered in order to allow them to understand why the work was carried out.
* Show interest in the work and make you want to read more.

**Organization**

The introduction has three parts:

1. Present the general aspect of the subject with a brief update (state of knowledge on the subject).

2. Specify the particular aspect of the problem that was addressed.

3. Indicate the objectives – and possibly the stages – of the work in one or two sentences.

Regarding verb tense, we use:

* Present tense for admitted facts
* The past tense for author citation or to state the objective of the work.

**3. Materials and methods**

The “Materials and Methods” MUST contain:

* The material (or data) described exactly.
* Selection criteria.
* Exclusion criteria.
* What we seek to evaluate.
* Judgment criteria.
* The method(s): computer science(s), mathematics(s), statistics(s), experimental(s).

The “Materials and Methods” MUST NOT contain:

Discussion or comments on the material and method.

* Results.
* Telegraph style and unexplained abbreviations.

The “Materials and Methods” section must be developed with as much information and justification of the choices made as possible so that the results are reproducible. It is therefore a question of describing and not of interpreting. The correct tense for verbs is the past tense.

**4. Results**

The “Results” MUST contain:

* All results, even negative, to the extent that they provide useful information to the problem studied.
* Impersonal, precise, clear results.
* Normal then abnormal results, in the order of presentation in “Materials and methods.

The results are the culmination of the research and the basis of the discussion. Only observed facts should be reported, not results unrelated to the subject. There should be no comments or references. The correct tense for verbs is the past tense.

**Iconography**

We can use :

* simple summary tables
* figures
* diagrams
* photographs

The iconographic documents must be produced before writing the “Results” section. This must be structured around these documents, and not the other way around. The raw quantified data are to be reported in the appendix. Figures and tables should be informative and not repeat the text. BE CAREFUL of the captions.

Figures and tables

They are not obligatory. They provide maximum information in minimum space. They must be understandable independently of the text. They must be informative in themselves thanks to their captions, subtitles, notes. Avoid “all figures” or “all tables”

Figures OR tables?

Figures and tables do not have the same role: Tables are made up of letters and numbers. They have the advantage of mathematical precision and allow comparisons to be made. Figures are a transcription of encrypted data: drawings, lines, curves, diagrams, etc. . . Figures are always accompanied by legends, tables sometimes have a title and sometimes a legend, but at least one of the two. The figure is more effective for describing a situation that evolves over time, or more generally for showing a difference between several states to the reader. The choice between figure or table will depend on the objective sought.

**5. Discussion**

Share your personal contribution to the subject discussed. Eventually, at the end, formulate hypotheses. The verb tense is the past, possibly the present for established facts.

Discussion allows you to express your point of view. It begins with a summary of the work carried out, and must answer the following three points: Has the initial objective been achieved? Are the results reliable? Judging the quality and validity of results through critical and objective discussion. How do the results compare to those of other authors?

**6. Conclusion**

* It is a dense summary of the work.
* Specific suggestions on further work can be made.
* One full page should be enough.

**7**. **Bibliographic references**

**Why include references?**

* Justify any stated fact.
* Situate your work in relation to literature.
* Be sure that what you do is original.
* List articles or works that have been cited in the text and to which the reader can refer.

**How to list references?**

As soon as possible after the fact is reported. In the middle or end of a sentence. The same reference several times if necessary. The references should not be too numerous. Only cite what you have read.

"et al." (Abbreviation of "et al ii" from Latin which means "and the others").

**Formatting**

* A reasonable memory size is between 25 and 30 pages
* Favor single-sided, A4 format, black and white
* Margins of 2.5 cm (top, bottom, right, left)
* Font size 11 or 12 points, line spacing 1.5
* Paginate all pages
* All tables, figures, equations must have a number

General rule: make a simple and airy presentation.