

Discussion Section Document Structure

1. Interpretation of Key Findings

Clearly explain the main findings of your research, highlighting their significance and referencing specific results. Discuss how these findings address the research questions or objectives.

2. Comparison with Previous Studies

Compare your results with relevant literature. Highlight consistencies, differences, and possible reasons for discrepancies. Illustrate how your findings contribute to or challenge existing knowledge.

3. Implications

Discuss the practical, theoretical, and/or policy implications of your results. Explain how your research advances the field and its potential impact on stakeholders.

4. Study Limitations

Acknowledge limitations related to study design, methodology, sample, generalizability, or potential sources of bias. Briefly comment on how these limitations may affect the interpretation of your findings.

5. Future Research Directions

Suggest areas for future studies based on your findings and limitations. Indicate open questions, gaps that remain, or new hypotheses generated from your results.

6. Conclusion (Optional or as a Separate Section)

Provide a concise summary statement connecting the discussion points. Reaffirm the value and contribution of your research.

Important Notes about the Discussion Section

- Focus on interpretation, not simple repetition of results.
- Be objective and balanced in discussing strengths and limitations.
- Relate findings clearly to the existing body of literature.
- Keep the discussion organized with well-defined subheadings if possible.
- Avoid unsupported speculation—ground interpretations in evidence.