

Guidelines for writing abstracts

The Arabic Linguistics Society adopts a modified version of the Linguistic Society of America abstract guidelines. Please read thoroughly and carefully.

Abstract Format Guidelines

1. Abstracts must be submitted in PDF format. Abstracts in any other format will not be evaluated.
2. Abstracts submitted can only be written in English. Abstracts in any other language will be rejected.
3. An abstract, including examples, if needed, must not exceed one page in length, in a font no smaller than 10 point and preferably 12 point. Margins should be at least 1.0 inch on all sides. References can be included on a second page. Abstracts exceeding the page length limit or in type smaller than 10 point will be rejected without being evaluated.
4. Please make sure that you embed any special fonts in the .pdf file. Loss of phonetic fonts for example could negatively affect the evaluation of your abstract, so please make sure all fonts are embedded.
5. Your name cannot appear on the abstract. If you identify yourself in any way on the abstract (e.g., "In Smith (1992), I argue ..."), the abstract will be rejected without being evaluated.
6. You may submit at most **ONE** single-authored abstract and **ONE** joint-authored abstract, or at most **two** joint-authored abstracts.
7. Abstracts that do not conform to the format guidelines will not be considered.

Abstract Content Guidelines

A suggested outline for the content of the abstract is as follows:

1. Choose a title that clearly indicates the topic of the research.
2. State the problem or research question raised by prior work, with specific reference to relevant prior research.
3. State the main point or argument of the proposed presentation.
4. Regardless of the subfield, cite sufficient data, and explain why and how they support the main point or argument. When examples are in languages other than English, provide word-by-word glosses and underline the portions of the examples that are critical to the argument.
5. Make sure to explain abbreviations at their first occurrence.
6. If your research presents the results of experiments, but collection of results is not yet complete, then report what results you've already obtained in sufficient detail that your abstract may be evaluated. Also indicate explicitly the nature of the experimental design and the specific hypothesis tested.

7. State the relevance of your ideas to past work or to the future development of the field. Describe analyses in as much detail as possible. Avoid saying "a solution to this problem will be presented". If you are taking a stand on a controversial issue, summarize the arguments that led you to your position.
8. State the contribution to linguistic research made by the analysis.
9. While citation in the text of the relevant literature is essential, a separate list of references at the end of the abstract is generally unnecessary. Should you decide to provide a list of references, please list **only** those references cited in the abstract.
10. At the very bottom of the abstract, please indicate the subfield(s) of linguistics that your paper should be categorized under (e.g., syntax, sociolinguistics, language acquisition, etc.). You may list up to two subfields. This will make it easier for us to assign your abstract to appropriate reviewers.