

We All Speak English, but do We Write in the Same Language?

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Abstract

This study aims to identify a series of differences between International and Romanian publications by running a linguistic analysis on a corpus of research articles coming from both Romanian and International journals. The outcomes of this paper can help researchers to improve their writing skills for their future publications, by providing them a guideline for raising the quality of their research articles by expanding the Discussion & Conclusion section. We identify a phrase bank that can be used afterwards by Romanian researchers in their attempts to publish their articles in International journals. The research question we are trying to answer in this study is: How is the low level of confidence in our researchers' ability to communicate in English influencing the quality of Romanian journals?

This study is structured into two main parts: the first one is drawing a picture for the theoretical background in the research domain of linguistic analysis and it is identifying the niche among the latest studies conducted in the field, and the second section represents the empirical study, the actual linguistic comparison between discussion & conclusion sections of articles published in Romanian and International journals. The last part of the paper is a conclusion and limitation section for this study, providing discussion about the outcomes of this research and directions for future studies.

JEL Classification: B40, D83, G32, Z13

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1. Introduction

The academic community in Romania makes efforts to align its scientific communication standards to those abroad. There is a diversity of practices used in conducting and reporting research, but when it comes to publication of research results in international peer-reviewed journals, our researchers and practitioners meet some obstacles related firstly to the linguistic challenge of writing in English and secondly to other types of barriers like structural, methodological or system-related challenges (Bardi and Mureşan, 2014).

Latest studies (Mureşan and Pérez-Llantada, 2014 or Bardi and Mureşan, 2014) highlight the fact that Romanian researchers and practitioners are making big efforts to familiarize themselves with internationally-accepted research practices and to develop their writing in English skills.

This study aims to show that even if there were so many efforts made to disseminate Romanian research in high-profile publications, there are still rules that need to be followed in order to achieve international recognition.

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Journal articles

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TAG: *proceedings, genre analysis, lingua inglese*

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