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Generic Features of Applied Linguistics Research Articles: A Rhetorical Perspective

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Abstract

Research language as a code used to transmit a well-defined realm of communication is specified through targeted highlights in the academic community. This is framed by language structures and patterns representing a fingerprint in the language of academia. The latter is reflected in the type of communication in disciplinary writing among members of the community of research. In this respect, the field of applied linguistics as part of human sciences mirrors in turn this specificity of academic interaction. Hence, considering the characteristic features by which the message of transferring knowledge is delivered in this community helps researchers and writers overcome what is challenging in understanding the coding of the linguistic side in reception and in structuring units of meaning in production. For this reason, the present research deals with analysing a corpus of 20 research articles selected randomly from the domain of applied linguistics. They were tackled in terms of the corresponding rhetorical attributes, macrostructure, metadiscourse functions, and language typology. Findings revealed that there is a well-precise generic structuring set for a clear purposeful path of academic interaction which should be pursued by research writers in order to avoid any ambiguity vis-à-vis the respective rhetorical patterning or any other linguistic impediments.

Keywords: academic community, disciplinary writing, generic features, research writing