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Conference Abstract

Toulmin's Argumentation Pattern Analysis of the Discussion Section in Published Articles: the case of research articles in 'Revue des Sciences Humaines' of Biskra University.

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Abstract

Writing the discussion section in research articles permits researchers to exhibit their knowledge contribution to the existing multi-disciplinary literature through the exposition of their research findings. This end target can not be fully accomplished unless the author/researcher manages to structure the discussion section around the provided arguments that conform to the appropriate move structure. The Toulmin Model is deemed to be one of the most utilized and followed argumentation model in writing the discussion section in research papers, which breaks the arguments down into six components: claim, ground, warrant, qualifier, rebuttal and backing. The present small-scale study aims to analyze the argumentation pattern in the discussion section of seven (07) chosen published papers written in English in "Revue des Sciences Humaines" of Biskra University. The papers are chosen from different disciplines and also from different issues of the journal to find out the prevailing move structure followed by researchers in structuring their articles discussion section. The findings revealed that most of the reviewed papers follow a semi-complete pattern (claim, ground, and warrant). None of the analyzed articles followed a complete Toulmin argumentation pattern. It seems that most of the analyzed articles do not have a clearly structured pattern of argumentation as their authors might focus on presenting and analyzing the findings in favor of discussing the results.

Key words: Toulmin model, argumentation pattern, discussion section, research articles