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PREDICAMENTS AND PROSPECTS

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Conference Abstract

Investigating the Uses of Meta-discourse Markers in Academic Research

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Abstract

Research is a creative and systematic undertaking that requires the collection, analysis, organization and presentation of information. While there are clear methods for data gathering and analysis, the presentation of information is maybe most challenging for researchers, especially for EFL researchers. Academic writing refers to the formal style researchers use in their articles, dissertations and theses. The process of conducting a research paper requires knowledge about the topic, vocabulary, and a set of linguistic devices used to communicate attitudes and mark the structural properties of a text. This paper attempt to shed some light on the expressions which researchers may find useful in the course of conducting Academic research. We attempt to discuss the uses of Meta-discourse markers for a more persuasive writing. Besides to discuss the impact of the lack of Meta-discourse devices in a research paper, the role they play in the overall cohesion of the text, and how they contribute in improving the style of the text.

Key words: Meta-discourse markers, academic writing, cohesion, EFL research.