

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This introductory chapter gives readers' information about the background of study, research problem, objective of the study, including the significance of research following by the scope and the limitation of the research and definition of key terms.

### **A. Background of Study**

A large number of scientific research article journals in various fields were published to share new discoveries into the public per years. The academics, especially in Indonesia and others country has participated competing to make the scientific research to dedicate their knowledge through the manuscript of research article journal. Even seems easy for author to compile well research article to be published. In fact, there has a few Indonesian journal research article that has been indexed in Scopus.

According to the data (Elsevier, 2019), list from October 2019, a few numbers Indonesian journal research articles have been indexed in Scopus. There were 51 publishers including 4 publishers which have been inactive. While other southeast Asia, such as Malaysia has journal research articles which have been indexed in Scopus about 104, and Singapore has 155 journals indexed, and Philippine has 63 journals. Ironically, the population in Indonesia is relatively

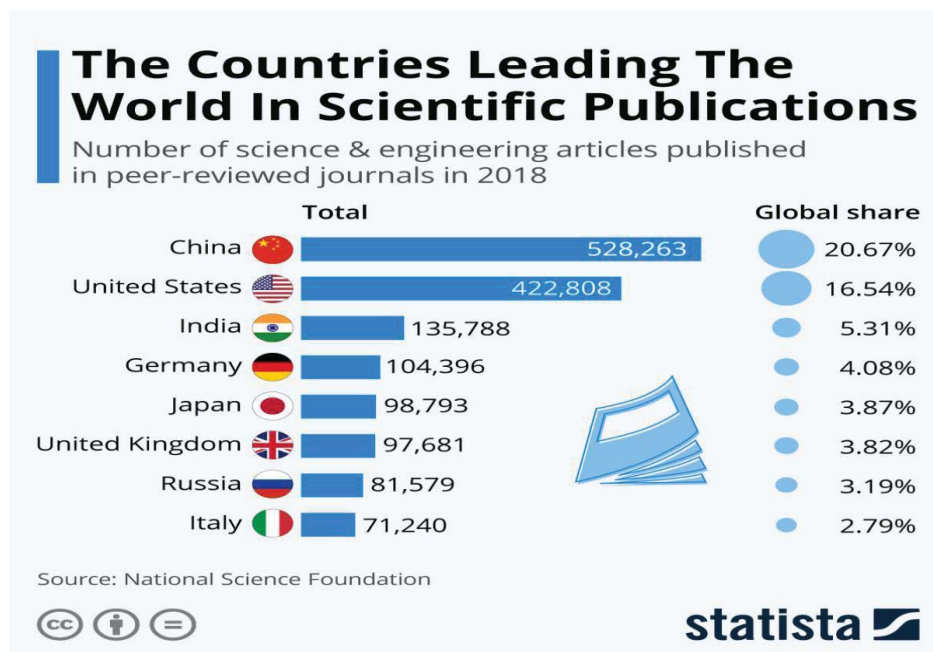
bigger than in some neighboring countries, nevertheless, the number of publications in Indonesia is still left behind to neighboring countries.<sup>1</sup>

On the other hand, the regulation No. 152/E/T/2012 for scientific publication which was instructed by minister of research and technology Indonesia made bit worries for academicians. For this reason, the agency forces the undergraduate students should publish the scientific research which is indexed in journal while the master programs should publish the scientific research which is indexed in national journal preferably accredited by minister of research and technology Indonesia. In addition, the doctoral programs should also publish the scientific research in international journal. However, Indonesian academician has published fewer the international journal than neighboring countries.

At the same time, The U.S National Science Foundation (NSF) stated that there are 2.555.959 publication of science and engineering articles around the world in 2018. A massive research output in those field has grown rapidly around 4 percent annually over previous ten years ago. China's growth rate is marked twice in the world average. While the US led the way in 2008, it has been displaced as the world's top S&E research publisher by China in 2018.

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<sup>1</sup><http://elsevier.com>, retrieved on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



In 2008, the U.S. published 394,979 S&E articles journals, ahead of China's 249,049. China's rapid growth rate saw it publish 528,263 articles in 2018, ahead of U.S. output totaling 422,808. India came third in 2018 with 135,788. The European Union's collective output came to 622,000 research articles, meaning it accounted for almost a quarter of the global total. China made up 20.67 percent while the U.S. accounted for 16.54 percent.

For those reason, scientific research was not generally easy published. The researcher should pay attention in some terms. The expert state that there are 10 reason why manuscripts are not accepted for publication.<sup>2</sup> First, wrong journal filed, the journal has various motion and field. The authors should submit in the right filed before they want to submit their article to journal publisher. The second is about the wrong format. The author should also know what is the editorial format needed.

<sup>2</sup> D.J. Pierson, "The Top 10 Reasons Why Manuscripts Are Not Accepted for Publication", *Respiratory Care*, 49(10), (2004), 1246.

The authors should be familiar in terms such how the format is. Nowadays, all journal publishers have illustrated how the article should be formed before submission.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, poor writing ability is also the reason. Research article has some sub parts, namely introduction, literature review, finding, discussion, and conclusion. Abstract is one of the important sections in research article. The abstract in research article should be straightforward and clear. In order to make the reader knows about what is going to be discussed in the abstracts, the abstract writing must contain some components, such as purpose, methodology, result, and discussion (significance, conclusion, and recommendation).

Writing abstract is one of several things to consider. Particularly, this section is an important part in introducing articles. If the abstract does not have the proper structure as part of the brief review of whole article in certain number of words, then it could be a factor in the failure of the article to get international publication. Hence, having a knowledge to write good abstract is certainly useful and crucially needed. Therefore, the study that examines the rhetorical pattern of an abstract would be necessary. Thus, the writer would like to conduct a study entitled the rhetoric and linguistic features of qualitative and quantitative research abstract articles.

Within the field of inquire about, rhetoric studies are intensively conducted within the area of educational writing. Numerous analysts, among others, Samraj (2002), Basthomi (2006a), and Zeng (2009) were separately curious

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid., 1247.

about leading a rhetoric study on the introduction section of a thesis. Besides, there are some scholars who mostly premeditated the discussion section in academic writing, like Holmes (1997) and Peacock (2002). These earlier studies showed that rhetoric studies are a huge rising and interesting topic to be investigated since it had been first introduced and raised in 1966 by Kaplan (Chien, 2006). Therefore, the previous studies that intensive on investigating thesis abstracts are numerous and supply guidelines for future researchers.

An abstract is the first part that will be read in the research article. The readers can overview the content of a journal by reading an abstract. Submitting an abstract is an important thing even in national or international journal. The objective can be more detail seen by reading the abstract. Abstract is beneficial for the reader to identify the keywords that will make it easier for exploring the research.

There are many previous studies about rhetoric structure of abstract. One of them was conducted by Basthomi. According to this study, it was found that most of the abstracts written by Indonesian writers showed that they simply followed the abstract writing conventions rather than having knowledge on abstract writing. In addition, the abstracts found in the Indonesian Journal tent to come after Indonesian rhetoric rather than English as shown by the fact that the first sentences of the abstracts were less appropriate to represent the comprehensive journal article and biases towards Indonesian way of writing.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Y. Basthomi, "RethoricalOddysey and Trajectories: A Personal Reflection", *TEFLIN Journal*, 17(2), (2006) 187.

One of the important of a research article is an abstract. The role of the abstract is to give a summary in brief information to the reader. An abstract is one of the most crucial parts of the whole research article. Since the abstract plays an important role in the research article, academics should be able to write a well-written abstract. Indeed, from those important part, an abstract considers one of the most essential units of the article.<sup>5</sup>stresses that abstract as a critical part of a scientific paper that summarize the most significant points in the paper. We have to explain circumspection in this short preview to the comprehensive texts. An important role of abstracts lies is they do not merely seek to tell the reader, but to highlight relevant information and present principal knowledge claims. Besides, a persuasive rhetoric tools considered in abstracts. It also fulfills an important social role that allows readers to see how individuals work to position themselves within their communities.

Furthermore, the research of the rhetoric construction of abstract was also done by Djuwari. the data were taken from journal abstracts of South East Asian Association for Institutional Research (SEAAIR). It aimed toward analysing the moves of the abstracts, purpose of language, linguistic component, verbs of method and function, sense modality, and non-linguistic element which reinforce rhetoric of the abstracts. This study adopted Samraj's (2002) five moves model on analyzing the abstracts and Hyland's (1999) model of taxonomy of textual meta-discourse to research the language purposes and then the grammatical categories. The outcome

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<sup>5</sup>D.J. Pierson, "The Top 10 Reasons Why Manuscripts Are Not Accepted for Publication", 1249.

showed that there were three prominent moves to be found mostly within the abstracts like the aim of the research, methods of the research, and result.<sup>6</sup>

All academics must aware to write brief explanation in abstract about their research topic and the findings as clear as understandable for the reader. For English foreign language students, sometimes they find difficulties to write English in well and accurately. English foreign language is the scholar who learn English as foreign language not first language to communicate while living in their own country. In addition, sometimes, they make some errors composing their idea into sentences and it will make the reader confused to understand the meaning of writing.

As an illustration, writing, a well-written abstract is difficult because of three reasons. The first one, the author usually write the abstracts at the end of the paper writing. Therefore, sometimes, the supervisor does not pay attention to the abstract written by the writer. The second one, an abstract is a concise summary from the whole article. Meanwhile, the writer need to summarize whole research article that should be certain amount of words. However, they have limited space for it. Therefore, choosing the best sentences will be difficult. The last one, since the abstract is a summary of the whole research article, it should cover all parts of the research article and has limited sentences. Therefore, the writer must write the abstracts as well as the rhetorically role, not just a collection of unrelated sentences. A text is well cohesion if the whole text has the sentences that are semantically

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<sup>6</sup>S.A., Amalia, E. Kadarisman, & E. D. Laksmi, "The Rhetorical Moves in Indonesian EFL Thesis Abstracts across Educational Levels", *Journal PendidikanHumaniora*, 6(2), (2018), 100.

intertwined and consistent. In other words, writer need to write a cohesive abstract to make readers easily understand the abstract also.

Rhetorically, the effectiveness in abstract is usually important to get readers' attention whether they want to read the research or not. So, the content of an abstract should have move in certain pattern from one to another making is easy to catch what the article about. The use of rhetorical move may have contribution in preserving the well written abstract.

In accordance with the background of the study above, this study concerns to highlight the tittle of the rhetoric structure of qualitative and quantitative research abstract articles.

## **B. Research Question**

According to the background above, the present study focus on to answer the following research question below:

1. What are the move found in qualitative and quantitative research article abstract?
2. How are the rethoric structure pattern found in qualitative and quantitative research article abstract?

## **C. The Objective of The Study**

Based on the statement of the research problem, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the move found in qualitative and quantitative research article abstract.



2. To describe the rethoric structure found in qualitative and quantitative research article abstract

#### **D. The Significance of the Study**

This study is able to contribute additional topic for academic writing. Rhetorical move structure in abstracts should not be underestimated in scientific research. Based on that assumption, this study will donate to open a wider perspective in the research about the moves of rhetorical abstracts to provide a clearer view of students, educators, advisors, and next researchers' writing ability. Further, this study is significant in some points as follow.

Firstly, the findings of the present study would provide an insight into the rhetorical organization of research article abstracts in national and international journal. As mentioned earlier, a presentation of the research findings is a one of the technical requirements way for graduate students especially at IAIN Kediri who wants publish their international research article through well-written abstract and a gateway to professional advancement for researchers. To get a slot in a Scopus journal, a well-written abstract is required. Normally, only the information on the scope, the breadth of issues, and the number of words for an abstract is provided through a public announcement of an editor. The information on the abstract's content is not provided. There is no guidance on how to write an effective abstract to pass the evaluation of the editor's proposal reviewers.

The findings of the present study would help students and inexperienced writers to have a clearer picture of the rhetorical structures of a research article abstract. These findings would also enable them to recognize the anticipated

characteristics of a standard in abstract writing. The findings can help novice writers and researchers produce a well-written abstract with an appropriate form and complete contents for the audience. In other words, they would be able to write an effective research article abstract that meets the expectation of the international editor's proposal reviewers and disciplinary communities.

Furthermore, the findings on the rhetorical organization of research article abstracts are pedagogically beneficial for the teaching of writing and reading for academic purposes. Genre analysis yields pedagogical implications which can be effectively used in language teaching and learning (Heather & Dudley-Evans, 1998; Hyland, 2007b). Kanoksilpatham (2004) mentioned the role of the rhetorical structure in reading that learners could use the rhetorical structure as a template to follow, while reading, and knew the contents to be included to conform to the expectation of discourse community. She also mentioned that teachers could adopt the linguistic features co-occurring in the discourse and make a decision on which linguistic features to teach. Cross and Oppenheim (2006) emphasized the role of formal training of genre for students and writers that it helped reduce the risk of subjectivity and verbosity, and increase the clarity in their abstract writing.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

The scope of this study was limited to an investigation of qualitative and quantitative research abstract articles. This study explored research article abstracts and its feature. This study explored the rhetorical patterns of the RA abstracts. Furthermore, the scope of this study includes the contrastive analysis of abstracts in different type of study, qualitative and quantitative. However, the scope of this

study did not include the comparison between the journals, qualitative and quantitative research abstract articles. One specific framework is used for the rhetorical move analysis, that is, Santos's (1996) model

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

In order to avoid misunderstanding, the writer gives the definition of the key terms on this study. The definitions of key terms will help the readers to understand the content of this study in easier way. The key terms

### 1. Analysis

An analysis is a study of something by examining its parts and their relationship.

### 2. Journal Article Abstract

The abstracts that have passed the initial screening process of anonymous review committee in order to be published in an indexed scopus journal.

### 3. Move

Functional term which refers to a defined and bounded communicative act designed to achieve a communicative objective.

### 4. Rhetorical pattern

Communicative category representing the realization of a specific overall communicative purpose.