Results & Discussion
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Reflection Exercise

Pair up with one other person

Discuss the what statistical tests you might use for your research

Answer the following questions:

What type of data do you have?

Which test might you use for your data? Why?

Writing a Results Section

1. Identify important info
2. Organize it chronologically
3. Create graphs and figures
4. Describe other results in text
5. Summarize stats, use p-value
6. Number figures and tables
7. Create section headings
8. Accuracy, brevity, clarity

How to Write Results

Include the test statistic, degrees of freedom, and p-value for all tests:

"There was a significant difference between the treatment groups ($F_{4,28}$ = 33.58, *p-value* < 0.001)."

When reporting regression coefficients, report the confidence interval along with the p-value:

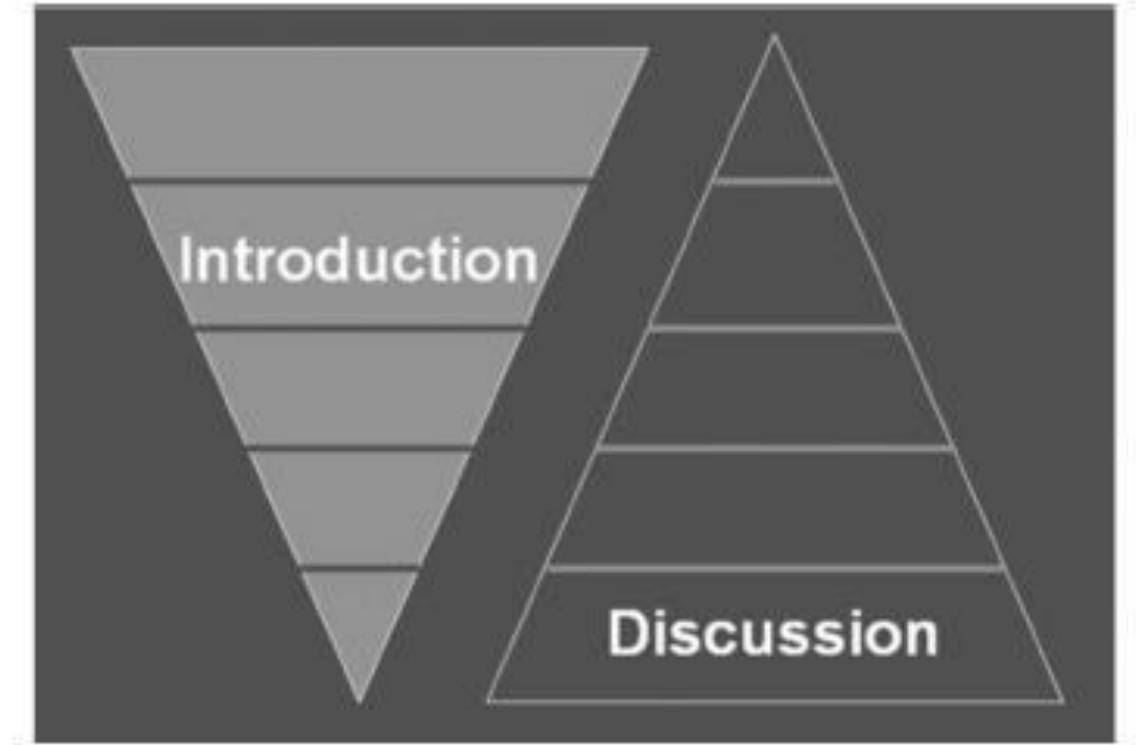"Total biomass had a positive effect on cattle body size (β = 3.24 [2.11 – 4.37], *p-value* < 0.01)."

"Total biomass had a positive effect on cattle body size (β = 3.24 ± 1.13, *p-value* < 0.01)."

Summarize results in text, and draw on the figures and tables to illustrate points

"There was a positive relationship between X and Y (Figure 1a), but a lack of relationship between Z and Y (Figure 1b)…"

Writing a Discussion Section

- From specific to general
- Use present tense, key terms
- Re-state hypothesis
- Describe major patterns
- Interpret why
- Connect to lit when needed
- Emphasize importance
- Provide recommendations
- Concise, brief, specific

Introduction

Discussion

Discussion Section

- Summary of findings: "our results demonstrate that..." "the findings confirm..."

- Comparison with prior studies: "Our case sheds a new light on..."

- Limitations of your work: "It presents some limitations due to..."

- Casual arguments: "It is notable that..." "This may improve aspects of..."

- Speculations: "It is unclear whether this is suitable for..."

- Deductive arguments: "This may be the reason why we did not find..."

- Future work: "To date, this remains unknown..."

- Conservation, management, social implications