

Rhetorical structure of economics Research Articles' introductions

Date de réception : 2018-05-06

Date d'acceptation : 2019-09-24

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Abstract

Post-graduation students or researchers in different disciplines seek to write and publish research articles for graduation and academic promotion. Consequently, Studies were conducted on writing for research publication purposes; approaches as move analysis were the fruit of research in this field. Analyzing the rhetorical structure of research articles' of different sections has attracted the attention of discourse analysts. The present study aims at investigating the move structure of the introduction section in research articles written by Algerian researchers in th field of economics. The data were collected from a corpus of 10 research articles published in 08 journals of economics in eight different Algerian universities. The analyses relied on Swales' Model 2004 (Creating a Research Space). The findings showed that Algerian researchers are following a rhetorical move structure similar to Creating a Research Space Model of Swales (2004) in different aspects. Such results will help teaching novice researchers in writing their Research articles and getting integrated in the world of Academia.

Key words: Creating a Research Space Model- Research Articles' Introductions- Move Structure- Move Analysis.

Résumé

Dans le but de la formation ou la graduation universitaire, les étudiants en post-graduation ainsi que les chercheurs dans différentes disciplines écrivent et publient des articles de recherche. Par conséquent, plusieurs recherches ont été lancées sur la rédaction des articles scientifiques, notamment l'approche d'étude des transitions rhétoriques dans l'article scientifique et l'analyse de la structure rhétoriques dans différentes sections de l'article scientifique. Dans cet article, l'étude de la structure rhétorique a été faite sur la partie « introduction » de dix articles scientifiques du domaine économique. Des articles rédigés par des chercheurs algériens, en utilisant le modèle de Swales (2004), et publiés dans huit différentes revues. Les résultats ont indiqué que les rédacteurs suivent des transitions rhétoriques similaires à celle du modèle Swales. Ces résultats facilitent aux nouveaux chercheurs d'écrire leurs articles de recherche suivant les démarches de ce modèle.

Mots clés : l'article scientifique, la structure rhétorique, domaine économique, modèle de Swales (2004), l'introduction de l'article.

المخلص

في سبيل التخرج أو التأهيل الجامعي يقوم طلبة الدراسات العليا والباحثون في مختلف الميادين بكتابة المقالات العلمية ونشرها ، مما أنتج عدة دراسات حول كتابة المقال العلمي ، مثل دراسة الانتقالات البلاغية ودراسة البنية البلاغية لمختلف مقاطع المقال العلمي. وتهدف هذه الدراسة إلى اكتشاف البنية البلاغية لمقدمة مقالات علمية مكتوبة من طرف باحثين جزائريين في مجال الاقتصاد. وتتمثل المعطيات في عشر (10) مقالات علمية منشورة في (08) مجلات اقتصادية من ثماني جامعات جزائرية مختلفة ، وقد تم استعمال نموذج (Swales , 2004) في دراسة المقالات. أظهرت النتائج أن الباحثين الجزائريين يتبعون نفس الخطوات البلاغية الموجودة في النموذج المذكور آنفا. هذه النتائج تسهل على الباحثين الجدد كتابة مقالاتهم من خلال إتباع خطوات هذا النموذج.

الكلمات المفتاحية: المقال العلمي ، البنية البلاغية ، مجال الاقتصاد ، نموذج (Swales , 2004) ، مقدمة المقال

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Introduction

Research writing for international publication has become a central issue for researchers in different disciplines (Flowerdew, 2005; Kanoksilapatham, 2005, 2007; Swales, 1990, 2004) Research articles (RA) are the key for doctoral graduation and academic promotion; researchers are urged to write in English and publish their works in journals to be scientifically acknowledged in academia. Swale's (1990) discussion of the move structure of the introduction section in research articles has brought a considerable attention to the structure of academic research writing; researchers are requested to follow the rhetorical patterns determined by the discourse community to develop their main points, arguments, and have a high rate for acceptance in international journals.

Swales (1990, 2004) proposed a model of articles' Introductions: Creating a Research Space (CARS) after investigating the structure of articles in different fields of science. In the model of 2004, each move consists of several steps, and the main three moves existing are establishing a Territory, Establishing a Niche, and Occupying the Niche. Consequently, many studies took place investigating the move structure of introductions in RA in different scientific fields using the CARS model trying to test its effectiveness in the different fields of science. CARS model (1990, 2004) have been used to analyze the rhetorical structure of RA introductions in many studies (Posteguillo, 1999; Kanoksilapatham, 2005; Adnan, 2009; Samraj, 2002; Shehzad, 2010). In looking for similar studies in the field of economics, few research papers were found adopting CARS model to investigate the rhetorical move structure of introductions in RA; Swales and Feak (1994) and Paltridge (2001) stressed the importance of examining the genre conventions of each discipline for students, as these vary. Thus, The present study is an addition to what has been done before; furthermore, the research paper tries to study the different moves existing in

introductions of RA written in English by Algerian researchers in the field of economics. The purpose of this study is to answer the research questions:

What are the rhetorical moves in the introductions of RA of economics written in English by Algerian researchers for journal publication?

Are Algerian researchers following CARS model (swales, 2004) in writing the introduction section of RA in economics?

This paper aim is to explore the rhetorical moves Algerian researchers in economics use when writing the introduction section of research articles for journal publication, and check whether they are following models that are mostly derived from Anglo-European journal articles. To investigate those questions a corpus of ten (10) RAs written in English and published in Algerian journals of economics was collected; the analysis of the move structure is conducted adopting swales CARS model (2004). The motive behind choosing CARS model for this study is its prevalence, the large number of studies and findings carried in different fields adopting it, and its Robustness. CARS has been described as being "seminal in shaping genre theory in English for specific purpose (ESP)" (Flowerdew, 2005, p. 322) 'received prominence in the area of ESP' (Dong & Xue, 2010, p. 37), 'ground-breaking work has generated studies providing valuable insight' (Kanoksilapatham, 2005, p.270)

1. Literature Review

2. 1.1. Move Analysis

Genre Analysis using rhetorical move analysis was originally developed by Swales in 1981 to describe the rhetorical organizational patterns of research articles. The goal behind it is to describe the communicative purpose of a text by categorizing the various discourse units within the text according to their communicative purpose or rhetorical moves. A move, thus, refers to a text section that performs a specific communicative function. Each move not only has its communicative

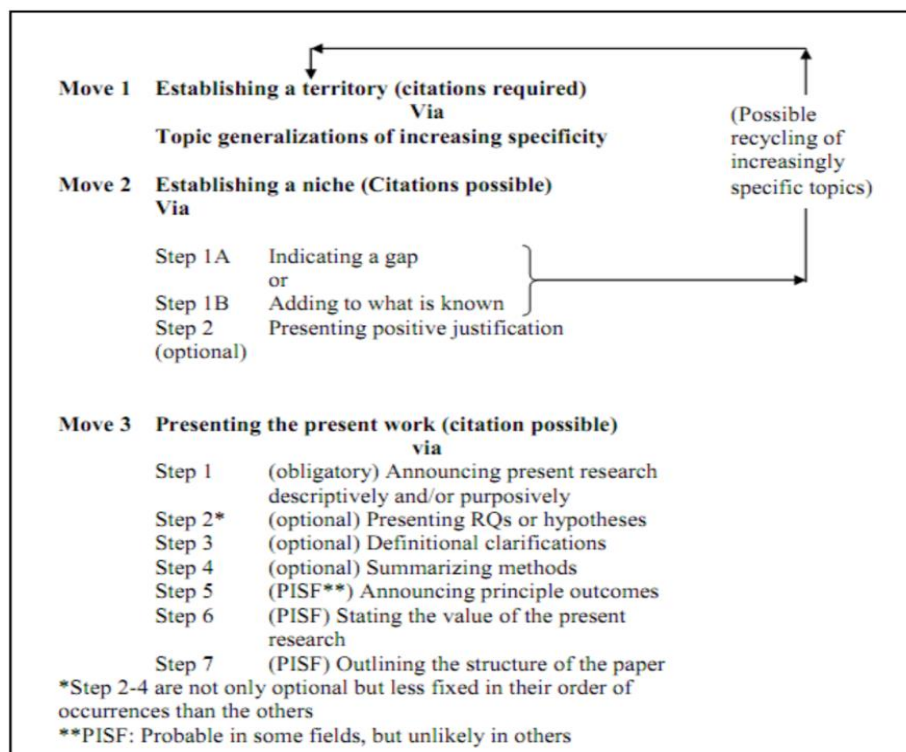
purpose but also contributes to the overall communicative purpose of the genre (Biber, 2007). Genre analysis began with the pioneering work of Swales (1981) on the introduction to an academic article. Swales (1981) noticed that there is a regular pattern of moves and steps in a definite order in most of the introductions he investigated. Accordingly, he proposed a model called Creating a Research Space Model (the CARS model) that had a great influence in research and teaching of writing in English for Academic Purposes (Evans, 1998).

1.2. *Create-A-Research-Space (CARS) Model*

The model is composed of rhetorical unites (moves and steps) that share the communicative purpose of the text. CARS model (2004) consists of three obligatory moves under which come steps. In the model, we find: Move 1 is 'Establishing Territory', and it can be realized via 'Topic generalization of increasing specificity'. Move 2 'Establishing a Niche' that can be accomplished using three different steps namely:

Indicating a gap', 'Adding to what is known' and 'presenting positive justification'. all the previous strategies can be carried with 'Possible recycling of increasing specific topics' whereby the writers may make recurring effort on the previous moves and steps before moving on to act upon Move three which is 'Presenting the Present Work (Suryani1, Kamaruddin, Hashima et al, 2014). For move three, seven steps are suggested; the first step 'announcing present research' is obligatory and can be realized through stating the main purpose of the study descriptively or purposively. All of Step two, three ,and four 'Presenting RQ or hypotheses', 'Definitional clarifications' and 'Summarizing methods' are optional and less fixed in order. Then, come Step five, six and seven respectively are 'Announcing principle outcomes', 'Stating the value of present research' and possibly ends with 'Outlining the structure of the paper' that are 'probable in some field but unlikely in others'. Following the tradition of Swales, many studies were conducted.

Figure 01: CARS model (Swales, 2004)



Samraj (2002) analysed research article introductions from two related fields, Wildlife

Behavior and Conservation Biology, using Swales' (CARS) model. He offered a modified version of the model. Kanoksilapatham (2005) analysed the move

structure of 60 biochemistry research articles. He found two-level rhetorical structure (moves and steps). For the introduction section, three moves were present. Suryani¹, Kamaruddin¹, Hashima et al (2014) carried a study on five research articles of computer science written by Malaysians using CARS model (Swales, 2004) to explore the rhetorical moves in the introduction section. The paper confirmed the effectiveness of the model in identifying the rhetorical moves in the RA by Malaysian writers. Rahman, Darus, & Amir (2017) analysed a corpus of 20 emails from leading journals in applied linguistics following swales CARS model (2004) to identify the rhetorical moves in the introduction section to be used for pedagogical purposes for novice scholars aiming at publishing their works in applied linguistics. The results showed that the three moves of the model are followed in 18 different structural patterns

In using CARS model to investigate cultural and linguistic variation on the functional level, Vakili & Kashani (2012) carried a contrastive move analysis to investigate Persian and English Research Articles' Abstract and Introduction Parts. They concluded that contrary to English articles, for which the model was typical, significant variation exists in Persian articles.

Table01: Description of the corpus

Journal	Year of Publication	University	Articles N°
مجلة الباحث عدد 13	2013	Kassdi Merbah- OUregla	2
Revue DIRASSAT N° 23 A	2015	University Amar Telidji –Laghouat	1
Roa Iktissadia Review Issue 9	2015	University of Hamma Lakhder- El oued	2
مجلة الحقوق والعلوم الإنسانية العدد الاقتصادي 25(1)	2016	Ziane Achour-El Djelfa	1
Revue Algérienne d'économie et gestion Vol 10 N° 1	2016	Universit2 Mohamed Ben Ahmed- Oran 2	1
Revue des Sciences Economiques, de Gestion et Sciences ommerciales N° 15	2016	Université deMohamed BOUDIAF - M'Sila	1
AL Bashaer Economic journal N° 3	2017	University Tahri Mohamed- Bechar	1
The journal of conomic and finance Vol 3 (02)	2017	University Hassiba bBen Bouali- CHLEF	1

Reference: made by the researcher

Rahimi & Farina (2017) presented a contrastive study of 70 English and Persian RAs; it was a genre analysis of the introduction section of dentistry research articles between English and Persian languages using Swales CARS model (2004). The analysis showed that Move 1 step 1 “claiming centrality”, Move 2 step 1a “counter-claiming” and Move 3.1 “Announcing present research descriptively and/or purposively” are the most frequent moves in English and Persian articles. Moreover, Move 1.1 “Claiming centrality was the starting point of the introductions in both languages.

2. Methodology

2.1. Corpus

Introductions of 10 RA written by the Algerian researchers and published in 08 Algerian journals specialised in economics during 2013-2017 were picked up for analysing communicative moves using CARS model (2004).The choice of the discipline of economics was because previous research into RA introduction sections seems not to have well covered this discipline and the few number of articles published in English in Algerian journals of economy. The articles were chosen randomly from the journals of economy published in 08 different universities of Algeria.

2.2. *Corpus Analysis*

Kanoksilapatham (2007, p.32) suggested a method to do move analysis that was followed in this study. The intent here is to simply describe common procedures in doing a move analysis. First, in order to identify the move categories for a genre, it is important to get a big-picture understanding the overall rhetorical purpose of the texts in the genre, which is the introduction of the present research. The second step is to look at each part of the introduction and figure the function of each segment or move and evaluate what its local purpose is. This is the most difficult step; Move categories need to be distinctive. Multiple readings and reflections of the texts are needed before clear categories emerge. The third step is to look for any common functional and/or semantic themes represented by the various text segments that have been identified, especially those that are in relative proximity to each other or often occur in approximately the same location in various texts representing the genre. These functional-semantic themes can then be grouped together, reflecting the various steps (or strategies) of a broader move type.

Swales proposed the first CARS (2004) move, Establishing a Territory, as it was clear that research article introductions almost always began with a section that functioned to provide a context for the study being introduced, whether this was done by claiming the centrality of the study (Step 1), and/or by making generalizations about the topic being studied (Step 2), and/or by reviewing items of previous research on the topic (Step 3). Not all research articles introductions have all the steps, but most have at least one of them, serving the function of establishing the territory for the study to follow. When a researcher is ready to segment a particular text into moves, it is best to begin first with a pilot coding, ideally with at least two coders. Coding must be done by hand. Initial analyses are then discussed and fine-tuned until there is agreement on the functional and semantic purposes that are being realized by the text segments, resulting in a protocol

of move and step features for the genre, with clearly defined purposes and examples.

3. *Results*

In the Following sections we seek to answer the research questions:

What are the rhetorical moves used in the introductions of RA of economics written in English by Algerian researchers for journal publication?

3.1. *At the Move Level*

After the analysis, we have found that moves one (Establishing a Territory) and three (Presenting the Present Work) occur in all the articles; however, Move two is absent in one article. All of the Introductions have an Establishing a Territory move (i.e. topic generalization of increasing specificity), but just five articles have included citations. Concerning move three, Presenting the Present Work move, all the articles have the first obligatory step (i.e. announcing what the current study is about). The Establishing a Niche move (i.e. indicating a gap in previous studies) was also found in 7 articles.

3.2. *At the Step Level*

The most common strategy that has been used to realize Move one (Establishing a Territory) was Drawing inferences from previous studies. Authors have discussed or interpreted previous studies to give the readers some background information of the study and to state the value of the field.

<Establishing a Territory>

<Drawing Inferences from Previous Studies>

[For over a decade, there has been a questioning of classic management in Algerian companies. Because It has been faced with international competition of the choice of market economy, the development of these companies, sustainability, competitiveness that involves.....

[There is not a consensus in growth theory regarding the effect of trade restrictions on economic growth. In exogenous growth models, a trade

restriction has no effect on long-run growth.....

[Islamic banking and finance is one of the fastest growing sectors of the global banking industry and has risen to prominence recently

[Today's Business world is undergoing tremendous changes at various environmental levels. The contemporary organizations environment has become more complex and diverse.....

In establishing a niche move, the most common step used is ' Indicating a gap '

<Establishing a Niche>

<Indicating a Gap>

[The role and typology of ERRs increasing vulnerability of an EME to contagious currency crisis has not been explicitly investigated except few studies at our knowledge.

[Theoretical research on psychological empowerment has been appearing only recently in scholarly journals.....

[The gravity model basically measures how much distance as a proxy of the cost of transport and GDP affect the level of trade, but it does not explain interdependence among these variables as endogenous.

[Case studies, on the other hand, lack statistical regour and are often exposed to arbitrary case selection.....

As far as the last move of the Introduction section is concerned, announcing present research descriptively and/or purposively strategy is always used to realize this move (i.e.); the authors use this step to present their studies or describe the aims behind carrying them. Moreover, this study has found that Presenting research questions or hypotheses step is also used by authors in 7 articles and announcing principal outcomes step is used in half of the total number of articles (5).

<Announcing Present Research Descriptively and/or Purposively>

[The purpose of this typology is twofold.....

[This paper aims to investigate whether the gravity.....

[Following this approach, we use the Sach Warner (1995a) Openness index and other Data.....

[The problem of this study focused on

<Presenting RQs or Hypothesis>

[Is there effect of the organizational commitment in the improvement.....?

[The question that guides this research is to know wht is the perception or more precisely (definition-representation) of the concept.....?

[The problematic is divided to the following sub questions:

What the level is of perceived.....?

<Announcing Principal Outcomes>

[This study represents a contribution that focuses on the concept of organizational justices. First,

Second, it clarifies the relations of organizational.....

[The contribution of this paper is to explain the reaction of one variable of the.....

[The results we have obtained shows that

Are Algerian researchers following CARS model (swales, 2004) in writing the introduction section of RA in economics?

The analysis showed that Algerian researchers are following Swales model in writing their research article introductions as the table below shows:

Table 03: Moves and steps' occurrence in the corpus

RA N°	Move 1	Move 2			Move 3						
	S1	S1A	S1B	S2 opt	S1 oblig	S2 opt	S3 opt	S4 opt	S5 (PISF)	S6 (PISF)	S7 (PISF)
1	*			*	*	*		*			
2	*	*			*			*	*		
3	*		*		*	*			*		
4	*	*			*						
5	*	*			*	*			*		
6	*	*			*	*					
7	*	*			*		*				*
8	*	*			*				*		*
9	*	*			*	*			*		
10	*				*	*					

Reference: made by the researcher

S: step

Oblig: obligatory

Opt: optional

PISF:probable in some fields , but unlikely in others

As it is seen above, all the articles include move 1 with its only step; for move two, the realization is mainly through step 1A(indicating a gap) in 7 articles , or 1B(adding to what is known) or S2(presenting positive justification) in the other two remaining articles. For move three, 7 Different patterns of different steps are used, but the main remark is that the obligatory first step(announcing present research) is present in all the patterns used; in addition to step five (announcing principal outcomes) which seems to be strongly present in RAs' introductions of economics.

4. Discussion of the Results

The present study aimed at exploring the rhetorical moves Algerian researchers in economics use when writing the introduction section of research articles for journal publication, and check whether they are following Swales' CARS model of (2004).In reading literature about analyzing the introduction section of research articles using the most known model of Swales, My attention was attracted by the absence of any rhetorical analysis of research articles written by Algerians in Algeria. Therefore, this study comes to bridge this gap in

literature by analyzing RA in economics using CARS model (2004) in order to check its effectiveness in the Algerian context to present it to novice researchers, who have not yet experienced writing for publication purposes. In the study, moves' organization of Algerian economic research articles' introductions was investigated and compared to Swales CARs model (2004) to examine the consistency of moves' occurrence in comparison to the model. The work aims at answering two main research questions:

What are the rhetorical moves in the introductions of RA of economics written in English by Algerian researchers for journal publication?

Are Algerian researchers following CARS model (swales, 2004) in writing the introduction section of RA in economics?

Through the analysis, we see that move one (Establishing a territory) and move three (Presenting the Work) are present in all the analysed articles, yet move two (Establishing a Niche) is present in 9 articles. Consequently, the model reflects the move structure of Algerian economics' research articles' introductions; this confirms the previously mentioned studies (Samraj, 2005; Kanoksilapatham,

2007; Hassina et al, 2014). Nevertheless, the rule has some exceptions as Vakili and Kachani (2012) proved the model inability to reflect Persian articles. At the step level, Step one (Drawing Inferences from Previous Research) was present in all the articles; step A1(Indicating a Gap) represented Move 2 in seven articles. Finally, Move three was dominated by the presence of step S1(Announcing present Research). This results approve the aforementioned studies (Rahman, Darus, & Amir, 2017; Kanoksilapatham, 2007). However, other studies like (Rahimi and Farina, 2017; Samraj, 2005; Kanoksilapatham, 2007) suggest that the model needs to be adapted to the structure of RAs in different disciplines in varied languages. For our case, the common strategies in the model should be brought to students' attention in academic writing courses so that they can make sure that these are included in their paper in a particular discipline. The results indicated that researchers in the economic field in Algeria are following CARS model that proved its effectiveness again in writing introductions as it has been described as being "seminal in shaping genre theory in English for specific purpose (ESP)" (Flowerdew, 2005, p. 322) 'received prominence in the area of ESP' (Dong & Xue, 2010, p. 37), 'ground-breaking work has generated studies providing valuable insight' (Kanoksilapatham, 2005, p.270). In the analysis, the model has fitted the rhetorical structure of articles picked up for analysis as it has already been in many studies around the world (e.g., Ahmad, 1997; Posteguillo, 1999; Mirahayuni, 2002, Kanoksilapatham, 2005; Adnan, 2000; Shehzad, 2010).

Conclusion

The study covered in this paper worked on move analysis of a corpus of 10 RAs' introductions in the field of economics using the model of Swales (2004). The goal of the study was to investigate the macro structure of the introduction section of economics RAs and compare it to Swales model in order to take the decision about recommending it for teaching introductions' writing for novice researchers. As a result, the model proved its effectiveness as it reflected the structure of successfully published RAs. Accordingly, more attention should be given to designing courses for teaching writing for publication purposes using models derived from analysis of articles in different disciplines. Furthermore, trainers as well as researchers should be aware of models of rhetorical structure of RA as a facilitating tool of writing.

The corpus collected for analysis is one of the main limitations of the study. Ten RAs cannot represent all the articles written in the Algerian journals by different researchers. For the RA sections, the present study has focused only on one section of articles, yet as argued by Kanoksilapatham (2005); it is important to understand the complete rhetorical structure of the research article. Many insights for future research can be taken from this research's findings. For instance, the corpus can be enlarged to a higher number of articles in economics, or better by drawing a comparative study between the structure of introductions of RA in economics and other social sciences. The study also can be extended to cover all RA sections using different models existing in the literature to serve novice researchers in writing their research papers.

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