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# Craft of Research

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WEEK 3: LITERATURE REVIEWS AND METHODOLOGIES

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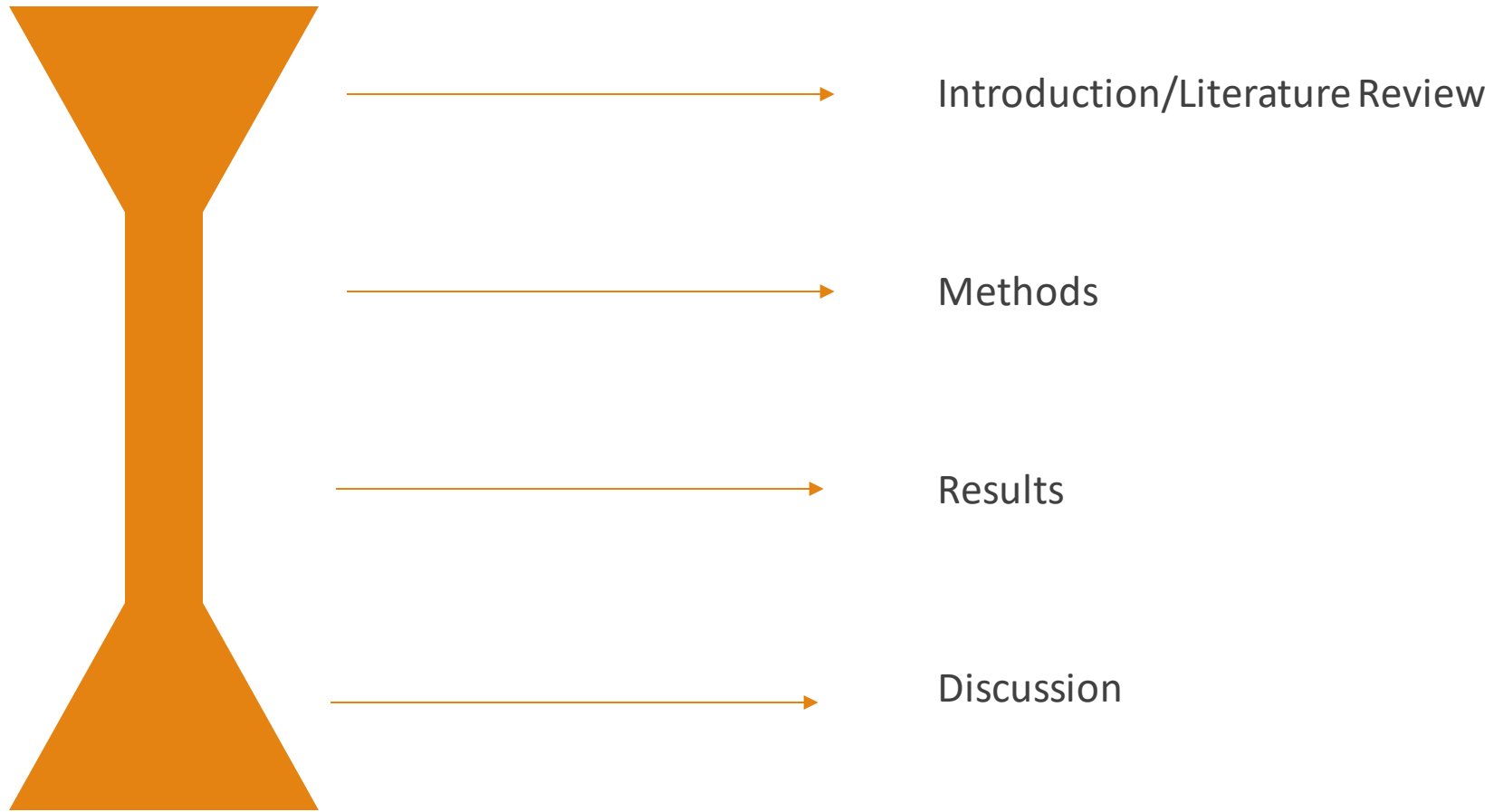
# Outline

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- IMRD: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion
- Literature Reviews
- Methods
- Upcoming

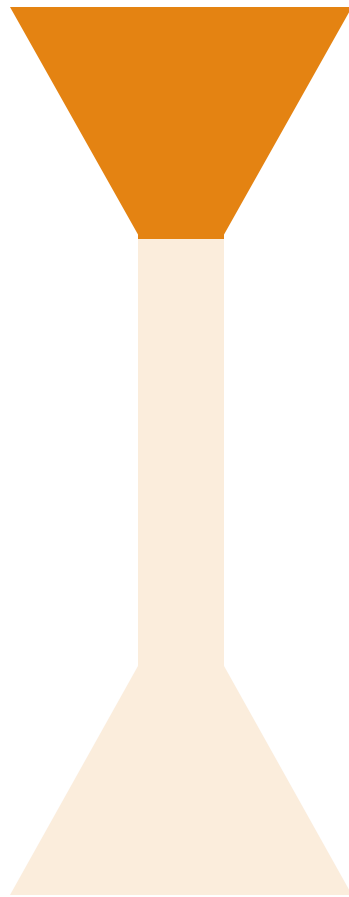
# IMRD Structure

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# IMRD

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## **Introduction/Literature Review**

- States the research problem or question
- Provides background and context
- Reviews relevant literature
- Outlines the purpose and significance of the study

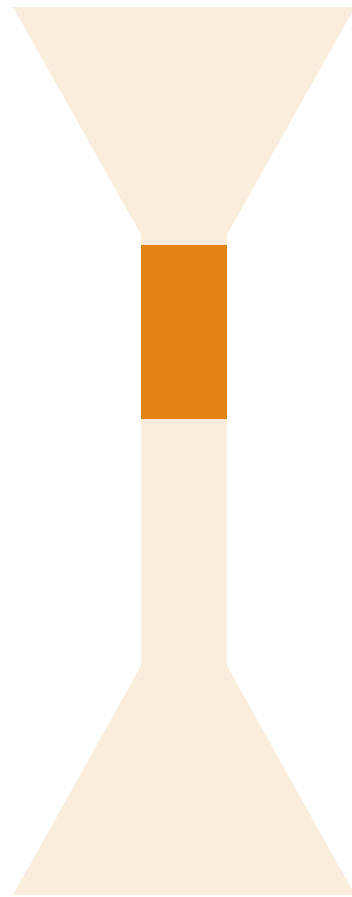
Methods

Results

Discussion

# IMRD

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Introduction/Literature Review

**Methods**

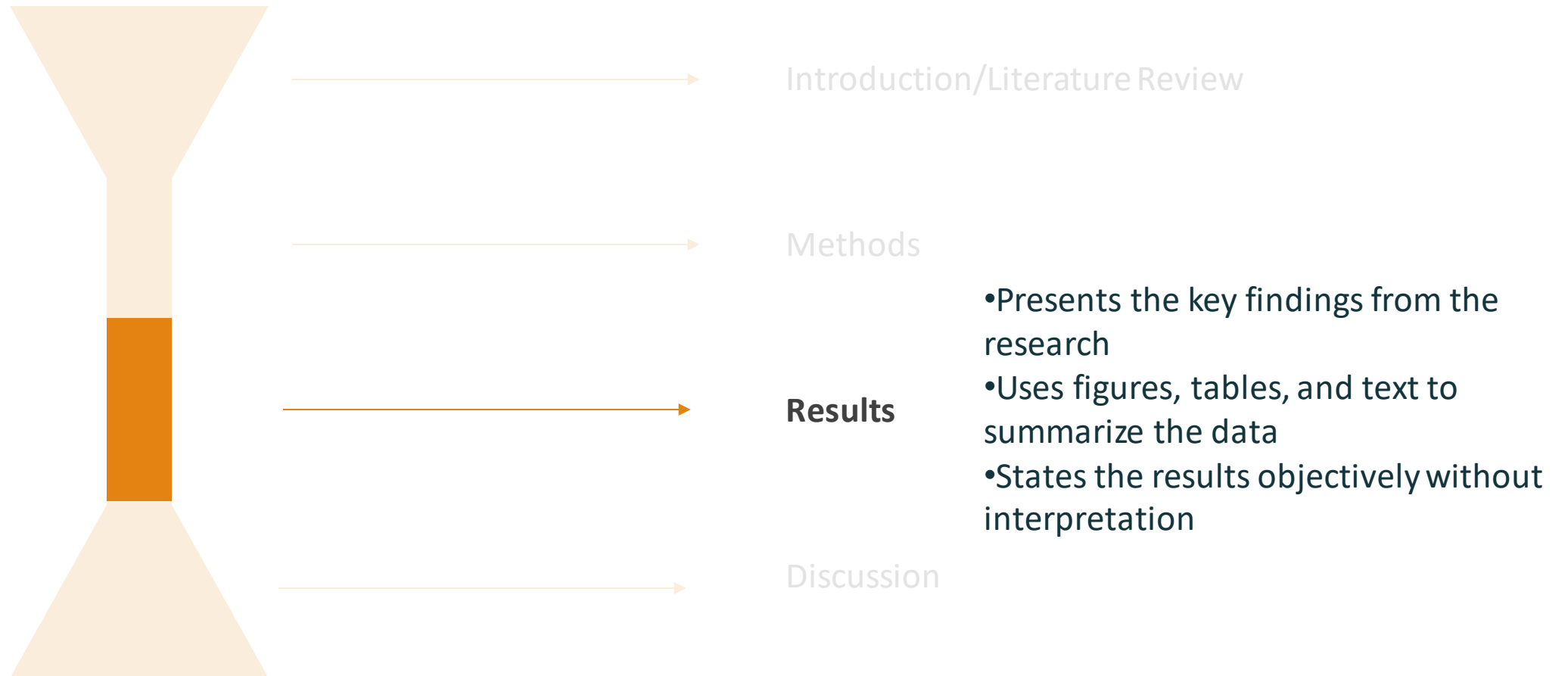
- Describes in detail the materials and methodological approaches used
- Explains how the data was collected and analyzed
- Allows others to replicate the study

Results

Discussion

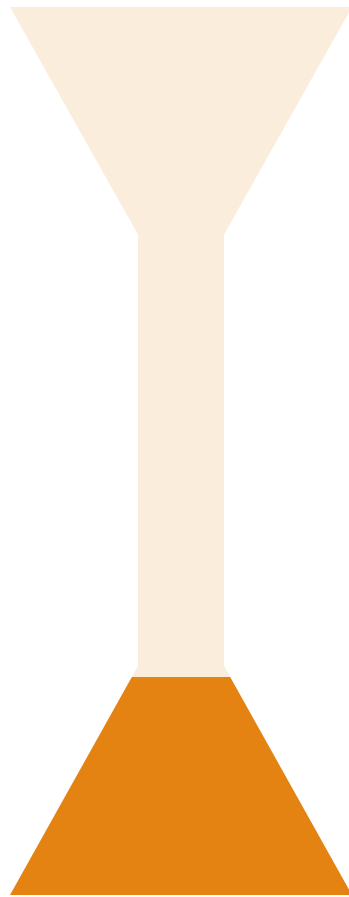
# IMRD

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# IMRD

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Introduction/Literature Review

Methods

Results

- Interprets and explains the meaning of the results
- Relates the findings back to the research question

Discussion

- Discusses limitations of the study
- Suggests implications and areas for future research

# Literature Review

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## What is it?

An overview of previously published work on a topic, which can be part of a scholarly paper, book or article

## Purpose:

Provides researchers and audiences with a general image of the existing knowledge on the topic, situating the current study with the body of relevant literature



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# Literature Review Key Objectives

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## 1. Establishing familiarity and understanding of current research

- Summarize and synthesize existing knowledge
- Understand the background and current state of research area



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# Literature Review Key Objectives

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## 2. Identify gaps, contradictions and limitations:

- Critically examine the literature to find areas for further research
- Identify under research aspects of the topic

## 3. Informing research questions, hypotheses and methodology:

- Literature review can support in refining and focusing research questions
- Gain insights from previous studied to inform research methods



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# Literature Review Key Objectives

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## 4. Demonstrating scholarly understanding and credibility:

- Show comprehensive knowledge of key concepts
- Enhance credibility of your research by grounding in prior work

## 5. Guiding future research directions:

- Identify areas to further investigate based on gaps and limitation
- Suggest new research questions, hypotheses or meta-themes

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# Writing a literature review

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## Prepare

- Clearly articulate your research topic
- Identify the scope of your review
- Develop specific keywords and search terms

## Conduct

## Write

# Write a literature review

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## Prepare

## Conduct

## Write

- Find and organize sources:
- Evaluate Relevance:
- Analyze and Synthesize Selected Papers:

# Write a literature review

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**Prepare**

**Conduct**

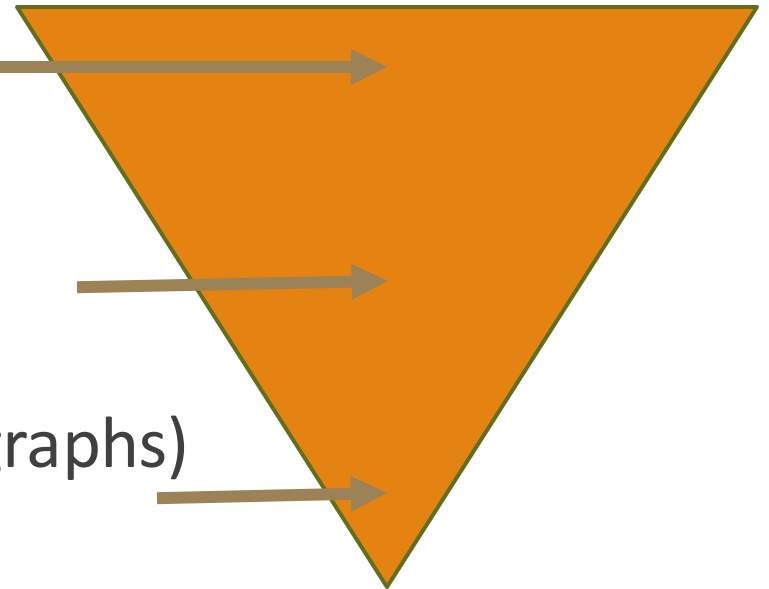
**Write**

- Create an outline:
- Write with a cohesive narrative:
- Revise and Refine:

# Basic organization of literature reviews

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- A. General Background (1 to 2 paragraphs)
- B. Addressing Specific Area (3+ paragraphs)
- C. Purpose of Current Research (1 to 2 paragraphs)



Culminates to current research questions/aims/hypotheses

# Literature Review Content

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- **Establishing a Territory**

Demonstrate the importance of the research topic and provide background information

- **Identifying a Niche**

Indicate a gap, limitation or problem with the current research that the study is aiming to address

- **Occupy the Niche**

Outline objectives, research questions and method of current study



# Methodology Section

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1. Describe how data were obtained
2. Explain how concepts and variables were used
3. Inform on the techniques utilized to gain the results

# Basic Organization of Methodology Section

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A. Contextualizing Study Methods



B. Describing the Study



C. Analyzing the Data

