

Useful language for literature reviews

Identifying important researchers or research papers

The first notable research on female entrepreneurs came out in the mid-1970s when Schwartz (1976) identified characteristics that are common in male and female entrepreneurs.

Study X established a new...

Much of what is known about X is based on the work of Smith (1988).

Most influential in this field is work by Smith...

It is now well established from studies conducted in Germany that ...

A growing body of literature based on the work of X recognises ...

<p>In her In their In this</p>	<p>useful timely seminal detailed thorough excellent influential important innovative pioneering wide-ranging comprehensive ground-breaking</p>	<p>study (of X), survey (of X), analysis (of X), examination (of X), investigation (into X),</p>	<p>Smith (2012) showed that ... Jones (2013) concluded that ...</p>
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Comparing and contrasting the research

Studies examining job conditions in Australian resource towns indicate women are discouraged from participating in the workforce (Gill, 1990a; Judd et al., 2002). **In contrast, McLeod (2008) describes** plentiful employment opportunities for women in a Canadian resource town.

<p>Fong's (2012) interpretation</p>	<p>differs from that contrasts with that is different from that</p>	<p>of Smith and Jones (2004) who argue that</p>
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<p>Fong's (2012) interpreted x as...</p>	<p>Similarly, Likewise, In the same way,</p>	<p>later research in Japan explained X as...</p>
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Identifying (or **generalising**) research with similar findings

It is now well established from a variety of studies, that ...
Recently investigators have examined the effects of X on Y.
Factors found to be influencing X have been explored in several studies.
A number of cross-sectional studies suggest an association between X and Y...
Studies over the past two decades have provided important information on ...
A considerable amount of literature have focused on X. These studies found...

Identifying limitations in the research

Simpson et al stated that **their study was limited by** the fact that they were forced to use convenience sampling, which is inferior to random sampling (2004)

One major drawback of X is that ...
The main limitation of X, however, is ...
All the studies reviewed so far, however, suffer from the fact that ...
Research on the subject has been mostly restricted to limited comparisons of ...
However, few writers have been able to draw on any systematic research into ...
Although extensive research has been carried out on X, no single study exists which ...
However, these results were based upon data from over 30 years ago and it is unclear if ...

Showing how a research paper contributes to our knowledge

It had been thought that some mangrove species were not able to photosynthesise when temperatures reached 35°C or more. **This understanding was developed by a recent study by** Liang et al (2019) which showed that leaf temperatures as low as 30° C can prevent photosynthesis.

Work by Smith (1988) extends our understanding of X.
Previously, academics in the field had believed....until a breakthrough by Smith (1988) showed...
Important work by Smith (1988) established a new view of...

Identifying gaps in our knowledge

The literature so far has highlighted the masculine nature of industry in resource towns. **However, few studies have focused on** businesses operated by women in resource towns, **so current understanding** of the challenges they face **is modest**.

The nature of X remains unclear.
Currently, no data exists on ...
What is less clear is the nature of ...
Very little is currently known about X in ...
Research to date has not yet determined ...
What is not yet clear is the impact of X on ...
The response of X to Y is not fully understood.
Causal factors leading to X remain speculative.
The basis of X is poorly understood.

Adapted from: <https://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>