

Maturity test guidelines for bachelor's degree students

As a rule, maturity tests of bachelor's theses are written as a news in the Exam system in an instructed manner. No material is allowed in the exam. If the supervisor considers it useful, the student may write an article draft as a maturity test. The supervisor and student agree on the matter in advance. The supervisor checks the contents and the teacher of the language in question the linguistic form. The assessment scale is pass/fail.

News as maturity test (bachelor's degree students)

The news length is 3,500-4,000 characters including spaces. Write the text in a **formal style** and complete sentences. The text should be written to a wide target audience. Avoid using special terminology and explain the used terms or abbreviations. Pictures, figures, tables or lists are not to be used.

Think what your **most important thesis results** are and focus on presenting them. Please note that a news is not the same as a thesis abstract. Consider what in your thesis interests or touches readers. What is new or topical? What has impact? Plan your news in such a way that matters are presented in the order of importance. The news structure is presented in Figure 1.

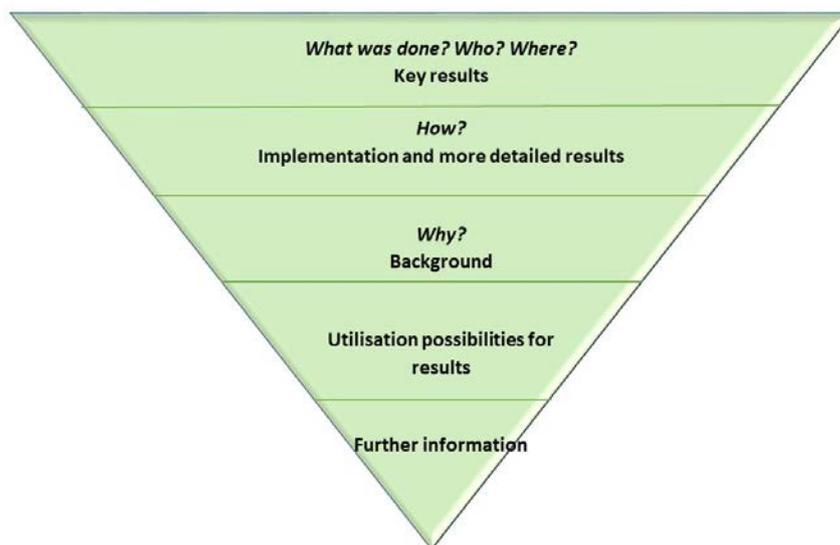


FIGURE 1. News structure model

Write the most essential thesis contents concisely in the **first paragraph**. Formulate the beginning by using the questions what, where and who and describe the key results of your thesis. You can begin with the most important result, for example: *It is possible to implement a cost-effective photovoltaic system to a one-family house by means of an island system. This result was revealed in a bachelor's thesis written by Tampere University of Applied Sciences' ICT engineering student N.N. According to the study ...* (key result and meaning). Do not write using the pronoun I but objectively, from the viewpoint of an external narrator.

Present the more detailed results in the **following paragraphs**. For example, tell about the implementation method and background of your work. Answer the questions *how* and *why*. Bring out how the results can be used. Facilitate the reader's task: divide your text into sufficiently short paragraphs in order to make it easy to understand the contents.

Include the most important content of your thesis into the **title**. Formulate an apt and snappy title, for example: *Cost savings by using solar electricity in one-family houses*. Please note that the thesis title is not a suitable news title without editing.

Write your thesis data and personal data (name, degree programme, study path, UAS) and email address in the further information at the **end of the text** as follows:

Further information:

Teikäläinen, T. 2017. Planning and Implementation of Photovoltaic Systems in Single-Family Houses. Degree Programme in ICT Engineering. Telecommunications. Tampere University of Applied Sciences. Bachelor's thesis.

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Characteristics of passed maturity tests:

The text is long enough. It is written in a formal style. The maturity test text corresponds to the requirements of the assignment and its text type (either a news or article) as regards the length, title and structure.

The division into paragraphs is appropriate and logical. It is shown clearly by using an empty line with no indent. The text forms an independently understandable, clear and consistent entity.

The sentence and clause structures are diverse and fluent: the writer masters natural use of main and subordinate clauses, non-finite clauses, and word order. The language is finished and there are no more than single mistakes. The writer masters punctuation marks, compounds, upper and lower case initial letters, numbers, abbreviations, and other characters. The writer avoids colloquial language, disturbing repetition, noun style, and other officialise.

Characteristics of failed maturity tests:

- There are significant mistakes or deficiencies in the contents.
- The text does not correspond to the text type requirements of the assignment (a news or article).
- The title and contents do not correspond to one another, the title does not comply with the text type, or there is no title.
- The text structure is fragmental, and it is difficult or impossible to form a general view on the topic based on the text. The paragraph division is fragmented or illogical or there is no paragraph division.
- The contents cannot be understood independently but require outside knowledge.
- There are plenty of problems in the sentence and clause structures (e.g. subordinate clauses as sentences, too long sentences, chains of subordinate clauses, use of main clauses only, mixed clause structures).
- There are plenty of grammar mistakes (for example more than 15 in a news) in the following: punctuation marks, compounds, upper and lower case initial letters, numbers, abbreviations and other characters, reference relations, congruence, government, and use of non-finite clauses.
- Characteristics that do not belong to a formal style, such as colloquial language, foreign words, and vogue words, decrease professional credibility.
- Noun style and other officialise make it difficult to understand the text.