0.J.I.S.H.	Writing Abstracts: An Evidenced-based Tool
Adapted by Jennifer L. Greer from English in Today's Research World, by John A. Swales and Christine B. Feak, 2000, University of Michigan Press.  Reference: Belcher, Wendy L. (2009). Writing your journal article in 12 weeks: A guide to academic publishing success. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.	Many researchers wait until the last minute to write an abstract, which is the most strategic summary they will craft about their research. However, writers know that a well-structured abstract, drafted in advance, can serve as a roadmap and communication tool for an upcoming presentation and/or published paper (Belcher, 2009). Discourse analysis reveals that one highly effective organizational structure for writing abstracts is <b>O.J.I.S.H.</b> Outline the field, Justify the study, Introduce the paper, Summarize the method, then Highlight the findings. Appropriate for a variety of academic texts, including empirical and review articles, OJISH focuses on creating a concise summary with strong rationale and significance statements.  NOTE: Abstract lengths vary, ranging from 50 to 600 words, for example. Check the author's guidelines for your target publication or conference. Adapt your structure, length and content to your audience and purpose.
Outline a Problem in Field: 1-2 sentences (Present tense): One of the most pressing issues in the field of X is Y The issue is problematic because it affects	1. 2.
Justify the Question with a Gap in the Literature: 1-2 sentences (Present tense): The issue persists because little is known about	1. 2.
Introduce the Study Purpose: 1-2 sentences: (Past tense): The purpose of this study is to	1. 2.
Summarize the Study Method: 2-3 sentences (Past tense). The study was conducted using	1. 2.
Highlight the Findings & Implications: 2-4 sentences (Present tense): Key findings include This study is significant for its	1. 2. 3. 4.