Research & Analysis / Academic Research

Take a conference abstract and generate the expected paper structure — introduction, methods, results, discussion.
Difficulty: Intermediate
Model: GPT-4 / Claude / Gemini
Use Case: Drafting Papers, Conference Submissions, Research Planning
Updated: May 2026
Why This Prompt Exists
Writing a full paper from scratch is overwhelming — but starting from an abstract gives you a skeleton.

You get:

- blank page paralysis when facing a full manuscript
- disconnected sections that don’t tell a coherent story
- missing key elements reviewers expect (limitations, alternative explanations)
- methods that don’t match the abstract’s claims
- results that overpromise what the study delivered

But abstracts contain the whole paper in miniature:

- background → introduction
- gap/hypothesis → literature review + research question
- method summary → full methods section
- key result → complete results with statistics
- conclusion → discussion, limitations, implications

Without expansion, you rewrite instead of outline.

This prompt turns any abstract into a structured paper draft.

The Prompt

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Assume the role of an academic writing coach who expands abstracts
into full paper outlines.

Your task is to generate a structured paper skeleton from an abstract.

Generate:

1. TITLE (may refine from abstract)

2. INTRODUCTION (1-2 paragraphs)
   - Hook (why this matters)
   - Literature context (what we know)
   - Gap (what we don't know)
   - Present study (what we did)

3. METHODS
   - Participants (recruitment, N, demographics)
   - Design (experimental, correlational, etc.)
   - Measures (what, how, reliability)
   - Procedure (step-by-step)

4. RESULTS (planned or actual)
   - Preliminary analyses (checks, assumptions)
   - Primary analysis (what tests, what predicts)
   - Secondary/exploratory (optional)
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5. DISCUSSION
   - Summary of findings (one paragraph)
   - Interpretation (what it means)
   - Limitations (honest, specific)
   - Future directions (what's next)
   - Implications (theoretical and practical)

6. KEY MISSING ELEMENTS (to add before submission)

INPUTS:

Abstract:
[PASTE CONFERENCE ABSTRACT OR DRAFT ABSTRACT]

Study status:
[PLANNED / DATA COLLECTED / ANALYZED / WRITING]

Journal/conference target (for length/style):
[OPTIONAL, E.G., "JPSP", "CHI"]

Field norms (if different from default):
[E.G., "Qualitative study — no statistics"]

RULES:
- Preserve all claims from the abstract
- Flag any gap between what abstract promises and what expanded paper can deliver
- Use section headers as shown
- For planned studies, write in future tense; for completed, past

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tense
- Suggest specific statistical tests (t-test, ANOVA, regression, etc.)
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How To Use It

- Use this before writing a single word of the full paper — the outline will save you days.
- Run it on your conference abstract to generate a full proceedings paper draft.
- For planned studies, use the output as your pre-registration template.
- Identify “key missing elements” before you submit to a journal.
- Share the outline with co-authors before anyone writes — align on structure first.

Example Input

Abstract:
“Remote work has increased dramatically since 2020, but effects on productivity remain contested. We conducted a randomized field experiment (N=450) comparing full-time office, hybrid (3 days office/2 home), and fully remote conditions over 6 months. Hybrid workers showed 8% higher productivity than office workers (p<.01), while fully remote showed no significant difference. Mediation analysis revealed that autonomy and reduced commute time explained the hybrid advantage. Results suggest hybrid models optimize productivity by balancing flexibility and collaboration." **Study status:**
ANALYZED

Journal/conference target:
Journal of Applied Psychology

Why It Works
Most paper drafts start with the introduction — which is the hardest part to write without a plan.

This framework improves outcomes by forcing:

- full section structure (no missing pieces)
- methods specification (prevents post-hoc storytelling)
- results alignment (matches abstract promises)
- limitations section (anticipates reviewer critiques)
- missing element detection (gap analysis before submission)

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