

**TITLE OF PAPER: IF MORE THAN ONE LINE,**

**USE INVERTED PYRAMID FORM**

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A **Thesis or Dissertation**

Presented to

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies

Department of Educational Leadership

Tennessee State University

Nashville, TN

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In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

**Doctor of Education**

---

by

**Author Name**

**Month Year**

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Associate Dean <is he still? Otherwise Professor of  
Educational Leadership  
Tennessee State University

**ABSTRACT**

**TITLE OF PAPER: IF MORE THAN ONE LINE,**

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GraduationMonth Year

Author Name

B.A., Choctaw University

M.A., University of Georgia

Chair of Advisory Committee: Dr. ...

In 250 words or less, describe the study (purpose, population, research techniques, etc.)  
with findings. The first paragraph of the abstract is NOT indented.

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## **DEDICATION**

In this section, you can dedicate this work to those people that you want to honor. Usually, dissertators thank their families (nuclear and extended), their spiritual traditions, spouses, parents, etc.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

In this section, acknowledge those who have been helpful during your matriculation/dissertation process. It can be written in first person and there is no prescribed length.

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## **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY**

The APA 6th edition manual states not to begin with a heading of *Introduction*. Simply begin by introducing the topic (p. 63, section 3.03).

### **Background of the Problem**

Historically, ...

### **Statement of the Problem**

The problem the present study addresses is...

### **Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to determine ...

### **Significance of the Study**

The impact of this study on [state the stakeholders] is that...

### **Conceptual Framework**

Creswell (2014) contended that “in quantitative research, researchers often test theories as an explanation for answers to their questions. In a quantitative dissertation, an entire section of a research proposal might be devoted to presenting the theory for the study” (p. 83).

Creswell (2014) presented the deductive approach to research in the quantitative research of using a theory or conceptual framework.

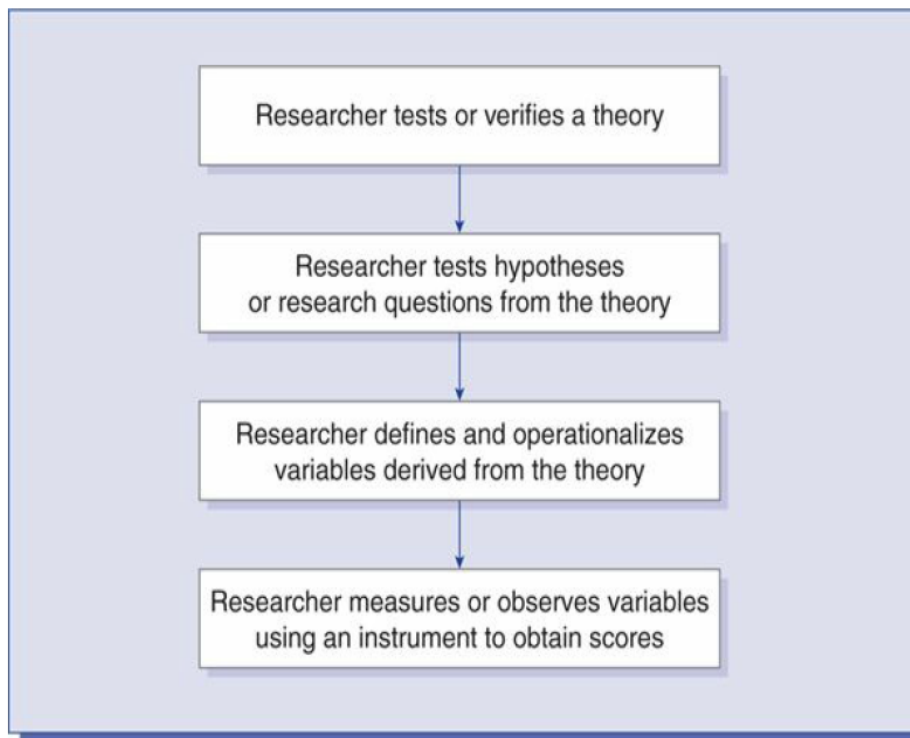


Figure 1. Deductive research

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### **Definition of Terms**

The following terms...

- **Higher education:** Education beyond the secondary level; especially, education provided by a college or university (Higher education, n.d.).

**Assumptions**

A few assumptions were identified in this study after reviewing the literature:

- First
- Second

**Limitations**

This study was limited by the following factors:

1. This study was conducted in the context of ...
2. The sample for this study...

**Research Questions**

The research questions developed for this investigation included the following:

1. What are the ...?
2. To what extent...?

## **CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND RESEARCH**

Introductory text should not be preceded by a heading Introduction, according to the APA 6th edition manual.

### **History of ...**

You can cut and paste the pre-formatted table titles and figure captions in this template. They can be used to create an automatically updatable list of tables and list of figures. In Microsoft Word you would go to the existing list of tables and list of figures, right click, then choose “update field” then “update entire table.” Similarly, you can cut and paste the heading or use the paintbrush tool to transfer the heading format, which includes auto-update table of contents formatting.

Figure 2. Caption

Figure 3. Caption

Figure 4. Caption

Figure 5. Caption

Figure 5. Caption

Figure 6. Caption

Figure 7. Caption

## **CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY**

This chapter describes the methodology, discusses the research design, the population and sample selection, instrumentation, and data collection procedures.

### **Research Design**

This study was a [quantitative non-experimental/descriptive, qualitative] design using [type of instrument].

### **Population**

The population for this study was ...

### **Instrumentation**

Text

### **Validation of the Instrument**

Creswell (2014) stated “validity in quantitative research refers to whether one can draw meaningful and useful inferences from scores on particular instruments” and

Creswell summarized the three traditional forms of validity:

1. Content validity: Do the items measure the content they were intended to measure?
2. Predictive or concurrent validity: Do scores predict a criterion measure? Do results correlate with other results?
3. Construct validity: Do items measure hypothetical constructs or concepts?

... “Content validity refers to the extent to which the items on a test are fairly representative of the entire domain the test seeks to measure” (Markus & Smith, 2010, p. 239).

The final instrument can be viewed in Appendix A.

To measure the internal consistency of the questionnaire, Cronbach’s alpha was used to see how closely related items are as a group. By items, we mean specific questions or statements to which one responds. The level shows scale reliability (see Table 1). A high value of alpha means the questionnaire items measure an underlying construct (Webb, Shavelson, & Haertel, 2006).

Table 1. Cronbach Alpha Constructs for Reliability Statistics of Instruments

Construct section	Number of items	Cronbach’s $\alpha$
Cronbach’s Alpha for ...		
Cronbach’s Alpha for ...		
Cronbach’s Alpha for ...		
Cronbach’s Alpha for ...		

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### **Data Collection and Analysis**

Author and author (2012) summarized the difference as follows:

A blocked quote can be single spaced for clarity regarding where the quote begins and ends. Any direct quote needs a page, section, or paragraph number. Any quote 40 words or more should be in this format. (p. 505)

## CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS OF DATA

Introductory text.

### Analysis of Descriptive Data

Table 2 shows...

Table 2. Title

---

Demographic variable	<i>N</i>	Percent
----------------------	----------	---------

---

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*Note.* \*Rounding error

...analysis of survey responses about selected organizational and demographic variables using a *t* test.

### Analysis for Research Question 1

Introductory text.

**Level 4 heading with first letter only capitalized.** Text. Each paragraph must be more than one sentence long.

**Level 4 heading with first letter only capitalized.** Text

### Analysis for Research Question 2

... is displayed in Table 3.

Table 3. Title

Questionnaire item	Chi-square value	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i> -value
1.	1.364	3	0.7141
2.	1.926	3	0.7493
3.	4.988	4	0.2885
4.	1.979	4	0.7396
5.	1.268	3	0.8667

Table 4. Title

Further...

Text.

### Summary of the Results

Text.

## **CHAPTER V: SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Summary**

The objective of this research was to ...

The two research questions that emerged from the literature review were as follows:

1. What are ...?
2. To what extent ...?

### **Research Findings**

The findings of this research ...

### **Conclusions**

The findings of this research ...

### **Recommendations for Application of the Findings**

The findings could be useful to...

### **Recommendations for Future Research**

There are a few recommendations that can be made based on this study that can improve future research and contribute to the existing literature.

1. This study can be expanded by ...

## REFERENCES

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**APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENT OR INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

## APPENDIX B: CONSENT FORM FOR ONLINE SURVEY

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. This study aims to discover .....

This is a research project under the supervision of my doctoral committee. You are being invited to participate in this research project because of ....

The survey has both demographic questions and questions about \_\_\_\_\_. This survey will take approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to complete, and your responses will be kept confidential. The results of this study will be used for scholarly purposes only.

This research has been reviewed and approved by Tennessee State University's Institutional Review Board procedures for research involving human subjects. Your participation in this research study is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time.

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. Again, thank you for taking the time to participate in this research study.

ELECTRONIC CONSENT: Please select your choice below. Clicking on the "Agree" button below indicates that:

- You have read the above information
- You voluntarily agree to participate
- You are at least 18 years of age



## APPENDIX B: CONSENT FORM FOR INTERVIEWS

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this interview. This study aims to discover...

This is a research project under the supervision of my doctoral committee. You are being invited to participate in this research project because of ...

This research has been reviewed and approved by Tennessee State University's Institutional Review Board procedures for research involving human subjects. Your participation in this research study is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time.

The survey has both demographic questions and questions about \_\_\_\_\_. This interview will take approximately \_\_\_\_ minutes to complete, and your responses will be kept confidential. The results of this study will be used for scholarly purposes only.

This research has been reviewed and approved by Tennessee State University's Institutional Review Board procedures for research involving human subjects. Your participation in this research study is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time.

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact [student name] at [phone] or [email]. Again, thank you for taking the time to participate in this research study.

Signing below indicates that:

- You have read the above information
- You voluntarily agree to participate
- You are at least 18 years of age

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX C: CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING FOR HUMAN SUBJECTS USE**

**APPENDIX D: IRB PERMISSION LETTER**

## VITA

**STUDENT'S FULL NAME****Education**

Doctorate of Education California State University	Educational Leadership, 2017
---	------------------------------

Master of Education	Counseling Education, 2008 Tennessee State University
---------------------	--

Bachelor of Arts Tennessee State University	Elementary Education, 2006
--	----------------------------

**Experience**

December 2011—Present	Jones County School District Academic Program Manger
-----------------------	---

August 2009—December 2011	Pauline Independent School District Elementary Instructional Specialist
---------------------------	--

August 2007-2009	Pauline Independent School District Teacher
------------------	--

**Professional Affiliations**

- ASCA—American School Counselor Association
- Chi Sigma Iota

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