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# Checklist for the structure of a scientific text



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### Check the entire text (introduction and conclusion):

- Is my research question or main thesis clear? Have I addressed and explained it in the introduction and the conclusion?

### Check the order of the chapters (text structure):

- Does each chapter have a clear connection to your research question or main thesis?
- Are the chapters ordered in a logical way? Is the train of thought clear?
- Do the chapter headings fit what each chapter discusses?

### Check the internal structure of each chapter (sub-sections, major text segments):

- What is the topic and the main statement of the chapter and its sections?
- Are the sub-sections and major text segments ordered in a logical way? Is anything missing? Are there sub-sections that do not contribute to the research question and are therefore redundant?
- Did you use transitions correctly and appropriately?

### Check the order of paragraphs:

- How does each paragraph relate to the whole work? What does it contribute?
- Are there any arguments or statements missing?
- Are there any redundant arguments or statements?
- Is the line of argument and paragraphs appropriate and clear or should it be adjusted?

### Check the inner structure of each paragraph:

- What is the main statement of each paragraph and how is it supported?
- If necessary, improve the wording of your respective main statement.
- Are the statements and arguments arranged in a logical way?

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Based on:

Frank, Andrea; Haake, Stefanie & Lahm, Swantje (2007): Schlüsselkompetenzen: Schreiben in Studium und Beruf. Stuttgart: Metzler. S. 68f.