



## Review Article

### Research Ethics, Good and Bad Writing Habits

Sayed Aqa Musafar<sup>1\*</sup>, Pervaiz Yaseeni<sup>2</sup> and Mirwais Khaliqyar<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Dari, Faculty of Languages and Literature, Nangarhar University, Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

<sup>2</sup>Department of English, Faculty of Languages and Literature, Nangarhar University, Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Pashto, Faculty of Languages and Literature, Nangarhar University, Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

#### ABSTRACT

Curiosity is one of the inseparable characteristics of human beings. This curiosity and unquenchable thirst to discover the facts forms the basis of research and all the inventions and discoveries of the present age have been provided in the shadow of this curiosity and constant effort. A researcher is a person who is engaged in continuous study and search and trying to get a truth, to discover it and present it to others. The most important feature of original research writing is its authenticity and validity. In order for these qualities to be fully demonstrated in scientific writing, the ethics of research must become a stable and spiritual attribute in a researcher. Openness in research is one of the important moral qualities of a researcher. The researcher must be free-thinking, unbiased and impartial, fully prepared to understand scientific material and know the special language of science. Writing, as one of the subjects of informing, is a type of means of information transfer, which can be used to express and formulate any kind of concept and thought. Therefore, a writer or an author is someone who has a thought or imagination in his head and presents this creation of his mind to others through writing. This means that the author is a creator, that is, he researches and creates something and the author must work on this in all stages of the research, he should avoid applying his personal opinions, and express the truth as it is, away from prejudice.

#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Keywords

Research, Researcher, Writing, Writer, Good Writing, Bad Writing.

##### Article History

Received: 15-09-2024

Accepted: 20-10-2024

Published: 17-11-2024

##### Cite this Article

Musafar, S. A., Yaseeni, P., & Khaliqyar, M. (2024).

Research Ethics, Good and Bad Writing Habits.

Journal. *Nangarhar University Social Science Journal*, 1(01), 36–42.

<https://doi.org/10.70436/nussj.v1i01.11>

#### Introduction

Research is an effort or regular work in a specific subject, in order to discover an unknown truth and extract it or revise it. The goal of any research is to discover the truth about a particular subject. This particular issue can be a scientific, literary, artistic, historical, philosophical truth etc. The researcher must be familiar with scientific research methods and have excellent moral and scientific qualities and consider the most important moral qualities that create the spirit in the researcher. A researcher should avoid fantasizing, prejudice, dogmatism, and exaggeration

in his work because these traits keep him/her away from reaching the scientific truth.

Also, the researcher should avoid self-views and self-beliefs, insistence, and stubbornness, as well as decisive opinions and know that realists and wise people accept logical views and theories without insisting. The researcher and writer should know the beauties and desirable qualities as well as the defects and unpleasant qualities of writing and the criteria of a good writing in order to be a good guide for scholars in the field. It is

\*Corresponding Author:

Email: [samusafer@gmail.com](mailto:samusafer@gmail.com)

<https://doi.org/10.70436/nussj.v1i01.2>

© 2024 The Authors. Published by Nangarhar University, this is an open access article published under the CC-BY license

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>

necessary for the author to find out and recognize these qualities and criteria and take them into account in writing his works, so that his/her works are decorated with the quality of good writing and are freed from writing defects, and as a result, an excellent and acceptable work permanent usage.

### The Importance of Research

The importance of the subject in this research is that by reading this article, readers/audience, writers and researchers will become fully familiar with the ethical standards and principles for research and researcher, and with the good and bad habits of writing, and in the course of research and writing, observe these principles. By using the mentioned criteria, they can present good and flawless works to their audience.

### Research Questions

In this research, the following major questions are raised:

- What are the ethical principles and criteria for research/researcher?
- What are the good and bad habits of writing?
- What are the main points and cases that make the writing enjoyable?

### Materials and Methods

The writing of this research-scientific article was done using the library research method, first, the necessary information was extracted from books and reliable sources, and after analysis, it was written in the format of research article.

### Results

Many works have been written in the field of research and writing, and there have been many discussions about research and writing. It has been mentioned that research is the main factor in the production of knowledge. The growth and development of sciences, in all fields, is caused by the research findings of scientists in those fields (Ishraghi, 1401). Research is an effort or regular work on a specific subject, in order to discover an unknown truth and extract it or revise it (Ahmadi, 2015).

The characteristic of authentic and reliable research is the researcher's attention to the original and first-hand sources, not description, citation and adaptation. Therefore, the researcher must reach the main source of knowledge and its primary sources in every subject and avoid nameless adaptations, unreliable and tasteless assumptions, and citing low-value second-hand and third-hand sources (Fatuhi, 2013). Writing is a technique like other techniques that must be mastered by constant

practice and preparation (Anuri, 2013). Writers express and formulate the concepts and thoughts (Mohammadi Far, 2011; P. 219).

A writer or an author is someone who has a thought or imagination in his head and shows this creation of his mind to others by means of writing. It means that the author is a creator, that is, he creates something. It combines parts, and makes it into a shape that was not there before (Ishraghi, 2016). A good writing is a simple and fluent writing that clearly conveys the intended meaning of the author to the audience and is far from prose complications and verbal complications (Gilani, 2016; P.41). Irregular and incoherent writing, no matter how beautiful and eloquent it would be, will not be considered good writing (Zulfiqari, 1387).

But what has been discussed and analyzed in this article is a new issue that has not been written and published in any independent work about the ethics of research and the good and bad habits of writing.

Curiosity is one of the inseparable characteristics of humans. Since the beginning of creation, human beings have been searching to discover the truths of the complex secrets of their environment. This unquenchable curiosity and thirst to discover the facts forms the basis of research. And all the inventions and discoveries of the present age have been made in the shadow of this curiosity and continuous effort (Tusi, 1382).

Research is an effort or regular work on a specific subject, in order to discover an unknown truth and extract it or revise it (Ahmadi, 2015; P. 21).

### The Purpose of the Research and The Researcher:

The purpose of any research is to discover the truth about a specific subject. This particular topic can be a scientific, literary, artistic, historical, philosophical truth and other things, to discover it and present it to others. (Ahmadi, 2015; P. 25). The most important feature of original research writing is its authenticity and credibility. In order for these qualities to be fully manifested in scientific writing, the ethics of research must become a firm and stable spiritual attribute in the researcher. (Fatuhi 2013; P. 33) stated that the researcher must have the following excellent moral and scientific qualities:

- The researcher must be an expert in the subject.
- Be familiar with scientific research methods.
- A good researcher is a person who is a bibliographer in his field of work and, if necessary, takes help from experts and technicians.

- The researcher must be free-thinking, unbiased, and neutral, and avoid personal or group opinions in all stages of the research and express the truth that he has found as it is, away from bias and opinions.
- Openness and courage in research are important moral qualities of a researcher.
- The researcher must be interested in the research and the topic in questions.
- Have a scientific spirit and scientific passion.
- Have the power of scientific criticism and be able to recognize right from wrong.
- The researcher must be trustworthy and when using the opinions and ideas of others, he/she must cite his source carefully.
- Avoid imitation and be innovative in his/her work
- Be fully prepared to understand scientific material.
- Know the special language of science and subject matter.
- Be logical and reasoning.
- Surrender to logic, reasoning and science.
- Be clear and to the point.
- Be free of hypocrisy and deception.
- Be neat and clean in writing.
- Be modest and humble.
- Don't be cruel and don't be oppressed.
- Don't be extravagant and high-flying.
- Do not forcefully speak or forcefully listen.
- Be patient.
- Be a real and constructive critic.
- Do not be weak and timid.
- Be a manager and resourceful within the scope of your activity.
- He must respect the trust and not neglect to mention the sources he has used in any way.
- The most important thing is that the researcher must be a real person with holy goals, faithful and committed and bound to the principles of religion and scientific principles (Tusi, 2012; P. 22-24).

### The Most Important Moral Qualities of the Researcher:

The most important moral qualities that create a scientific spirit in a researcher are:

A) Scientific doubt: To reach the truth, one must start with doubt. Constant scientific obsession and continuous doubt is the inherent characteristic of a researcher and until something is proven to him/her by testing, experience, discussion and argument, he/she remains in doubt.

b) Trustworthiness: In research, trustworthiness means respecting trust in quotations while taking and adapting the thoughts and writings of others. The researcher should avoid misrepresenting, stealing ideas, or attributing others' ideas to him/herself and to be reliable in translating materials from other languages. The level of trustworthiness of the researcher can be seen in the way of referring and quoting the works of others.

C) Realism: The researcher should avoid fantasy, prejudice, dogma, exaggeration and in his work because these traits keep him away from reaching the scientific truth. Also, the researcher should avoid speculative self-views and self-beliefs, insistence, and stubbornness, as well as decisive opinions and know that realists and wise people accept logical views and theories without insisting.

d) Courage: The researcher should continuously ask questions, and not be afraid of new questions. Be patient enough to find the answers. Be brave in expressing the results and findings of the research in a logical way. Also, sharpness, obsession and accuracy are important traits of a successful and reliable researcher.

g) Originality: The characteristic of authentic and authentic research is the researcher's attention to original and first-hand sources, not to paraphrase, quote, and adapt. Therefore, the researcher must reach the main source of knowledge and its primary sources in every subject. Avoid taking and adapting without name and citation, untrustworthy and tasteless assumptions, and citing low-value second-hand and third-hand sources.

(r) Mental discipline: Mental discipline and having the power of orderly and disciplined thinking allows the researcher to easily classify and organize his materials in logical and solid sections and chapters. The researcher should discipline his mind through repeated exercises in writing the research plan, always seek accuracy and order in taking notes and checking and testing the methods, and make mental order a stable habit in him/herself.

g) Feeling of responsibility: The researcher should think about the usefulness or harm of his research results for the human society and feel responsible for future generations. Feeling of irresponsibility makes the researcher a narrow-minded person and its opposite makes his/her work method and research to be recognized as original and reliable and his/her researches are considered as authentic and authentic sources (Fatuhi, 2013).

### Good and Bad Habits of Writing:

First of all, we should know that writing is not a science, but a kind of skill. Like driving, like swimming. No one ever learns to drive by reading a driving book. Rather, he

has to sit behind the steering of the car dozens of times and practically execute the driving instructions. Also, no one learns to swim by reading a swimming manual unless he actually throws himself into the water and gets used to it and practices for hours. It means that no one will become a writer or an author just by reading the materials related to writing. Because writing is also a technique like other techniques that must be mastered through continuous practice ([Anuri, 2013](#)).

The word writing is combined from the root (negar) as in Dari it means picture and image and the suffix (esh) and it means to draw and write and the word (writer) is made from the root (negar) in Dari and the suffix (enda), and its meaning is: one who writes ([Ishraghi, 2016](#)).

Writing, as one of the subjects of informing, is a type of means of information transfer, which can be used to express and formulate any kind of concept and thought. In other words, writing is a tool that can be used to analyze, examine and revise information and ideas ([Mohammadi Far, 2011](#)).

Therefore, a writer or an author is someone who has a thought or imagination in his head and shows this creation of his mind to others by means of writing. It means that the author is a creator, that is, he creates something. He combines parts, and makes it look like it didn't exist before ([Ishraghi, 2016](#)).

Now, here we list the desirable qualities as well as the undesirable qualities of each of these writings to be a guide for scholars. It is necessary for the author to find out and recognize these qualities and take them into account when writing his/her works, so that his/her work or works are decorated with the quality of good writing and are freed from the defects of weak writing, and as a result, an excellent, acceptable and lasting work to exist.

### **Favorite Features of writing:**

1- Delivery: Delivery is choosing combinations and words that convey the intended meaning, removing subtle and consecutive symbols and signs that can cause mistakes ([Yamin, 1394](#)).

2- Simplicity: Simplicity is one of the characteristics of a successful writing, words must have honesty and sincerity that are also simple ([Zulfiqari, 1387](#)). Observing simplicity is one of the requirements of writing; but the author should not overdo it and not make the writing weak, rather the author's writing should be simple and fluent and at the same time eloquent and expressive ([Ishraghi, 2011](#)). In other words, simplistic writing is such that the writing is free from any kind of difficulty and over-formulation. The

concept should be expressed in simple, understandable terms without any verbal complexity. The simpler and more natural a word is; the more impact it has. Of course, this does not mean that the work is completely normal and lacks literary values, but that new meanings are expressed in the form of pleasant-sounding words and it is effective for the reader and the listener ([Yamin, 2014](#)).

3- Proportion: It means to establish a connection between the words and meanings in the writing. Words often have similar and close meanings, but some of them are suitable for expressing one kind of concept and others for expressing another concept. In general, in writing, the compatibility of meanings with each other, the connection of sentences with each other, and the continuity of words with each other should be maintained and respected.

4- Explanation: It is such that brevity and clarity are considered in the writing. The combination of sentences should not be so brief that it makes a little sense, nor should it be so long that it becomes difficult to understand the meaning. It means that unnecessary words should be removed from the word and avoid using similar words more than necessary.

5- Adaptation: It is such that the composition of the sentences is prepared according to the method of the target language, not to imitate any foreign language. Also, familiar words related to the same specific language should be used, not foreign words except if there is no equivalent in the target language ([Yamin, 2014](#)).

### **Tips that make writing enjoyable:**

A) Observance of chastity of pen and purity of thought

In all writings, one should respect the chastity of the pen and avoid the use of offensive and disrespectful words, as well as obscenity, insults and blasphemy towards people; because obscenity and profanity make the writing worthless in the eyes of the reader and humiliate the author.

b) The unity of the subject

The meaning of subject unity is the provision of appropriateness and natural connection of the meanings discussed in the writing with each other; In other words, the author should not deviate from the main topic throughout the writing and all the discussions and embellishments and parts of the writing should revolve around the main topic in complete harmony and make a single effect in the mind of the reader.

c) Use of literary arts and arrangement of words

Literary arts are effective in capturing the beauty and pleasantness of the work and attracting the attention of the



reader. Bringing a beautiful simile, a subtle metaphor, a timely and appropriate irony, an original description, a suitable proverb, a sweet and pleasant poem, an instructive allegory, short words, make all the writing more fruitful and catchy and readable. It should be noted that we should not forget moderation in their use.

d) quoting the words of others

If we quote someone's article or speech or poem without changing it in our writing, we should put it inside the pterygium brackets and mention it by mentioning the source and page. You should also avoid quoting the words and writings of others, without real necessity and to increase the volume of your writing.

e) Avoiding long writing

Our writing should be as concise, short and useful as possible, and free from thorny discussions, take the matter seriously; Unless there is a need to prove a point or something.

f) Sufficient knowledge and mastery of the subject

The writer must do research and study about the topic of writing and have full knowledge of it.

g) Introduction

We should try to start the article without introduction in Chinese or Persian, and beware of compliments, flattery and covertly and convey our meaning clearly.

h) difficult and foreign words

We should avoid using difficult words and far-fetched terms, as well as words and combinations whose meaning and usage we do not know exactly, and also try to use foreign words, whose synonyms are available in target language. We should not include difficult words in our writing unless the writing is completely specialized and we have to use scientific and technical terms.

i) Spelling and connection of words

One should be careful in spelling words and writing combinations continuously and discretely and never use words that we do not know the correct spelling of ([Ishraghi, 2011; P. 64](#)).

j) Grammatical notes

Adhering to the rules of correct writing is one of the desirable features of a good writing and it is considered one of the essentials of writing ([Zulfaqare, 1387; P. 17](#)).

k) Compliance with marking rules

One of the factors that is effective in the fluency and clarity of the author's expression and the ease of understanding of

the difficult reader is to follow the rules of punctuation. Therefore, we must observe it everywhere.

l) Readability of the line

Not everyone's handwriting is beautiful, but everyone can write legibly. The handwriting should be clear, legible and correct, and if it is typed, it should not have gaps, repetitions or mistakes so that the reader can read and understand it correctly.

m) Order and cleanliness

This principle is necessary and desirable everywhere, and the lack of neatness and cleanliness of the writing, lowers its value in the eyes of the reader.

n) Being balanced

Speaking is actually a kind of music, the more the parts that make up the music, i.e. the words, are more melodious, and the more harmonious their combination is, the more pleasant the music will be. For the beauty and sound of words and sentences, words of equal weight and melody should be used, as well as putting words that have the same or similar last letter of the first letter to the first letter of the second, such as sufficient help, copyright, good shape, etc. you should refrain ([Ishraghi, 2011; P. 63](#)).

Q) attention to the audience

Keeping the audience in mind is one of the vital parts of writing. Until we do not know for whom and what we are writing, we do not know how to write. Each type of writing has a specific audience, knowing the audience makes us use the language and expression of that group; For example, when we write for children, we should use children's language ([Zulfaqari, 1387; P. 13](#)), the writer should pay attention to whom he is writing. If he writes for the general public, he should lower the level of his writing so that the writing is generally understood, and if he writes for academic classes, his writing should be worthy of their dignity and understanding, as well as for other classes ([Ashraaqe, 2013: 63](#)).

**Criteria of a good writing:**

Undoubtedly, a good writing has a specific criterion. The meaning of a good writing is a simple, fluent writing that clearly conveys the intended meaning of the author to the audience and is far from prose complications and verbal complications. The criteria are the set of instructions that will help us to realize and create such a writing. These criteria can be summarized as follows:

A) Comprehension

b) Developing of the content

- c) Logical order and coherence of the content
- d) Freshness of thought
- e) Newness of expression
- f) a fluent and smooth prose
- g) Compliance with grammatical rules

With the above criteria, you can give an opinion about a writing and evaluate it.

Now these criteria will be explained.

#### A) Comprehension of the content

The meaning of comprehension is to understand the topic of the essay and write about the topics related to it. If in your essay, you focus on the same topic that was asked of you and do not deviate from that topic, you have a good understanding of the topic.

#### b) Developing of the content

Developing the content means, open the topic and give it a try. To develop the content, you should use sentences that reinforce each other and confirm each other ([Ishraghi, 2016: 72](#)).

#### c) Logical order and coherence of the content

Harmony, order and coherence in writing are the basic characteristics. If order and coherence are not observed in the writing, no poem will be written and no beautiful writing will be created. The order should be observed in the content line by line and paragraph by paragraph of the writing ([Zulfiqari, 1387; P.14](#)), in every writing, a certain path should be followed and not jump from one branch to another. The writing should be a set of connected sentences, so that their logical routine gives order to the writing. The articles should be presented one after the other and there should be no gaps between the sentences. Sentences should not be separated from each other; they should be related to each other with conjunctions or connecting sentences ([Ishraghi, 2016; P. 72](#)), a disorganized and incoherent writing, no matter how beautiful and eloquent it would be written, will not be a good writing ([Zulfiqari, 2017; P. 14](#)).

#### d) Freshness of thought

The novelty of thought does not mean presenting strange or far-fetched thoughts; rather, it is a different way of looking at the subject. The meaning of this criterion is to look at any subject outside of stereotypes and repetition and examine every incident from different angles. For example, a humorous look at the issues can also add freshness to the writing.

#### e) Newness of expression

To keep the expression fresh in every writing, it is enough to rely on your own vocabulary and not to imitate the words of others. You should also use the words in their place. Some students simply say that it comes to them, they use it rightly and wrongly.

#### f) One-handedness, fluency and smoothness

The meaning of a prose hand is that the tone of the writing is the same, not that it takes a casual and friendly tone in one place and a breathless and formal tone in another place; Or in some places it is a joke and, in some places, it is not. Also, to maintain a prose hand, one should use words that are of the same gender and similar to each other.

#### g) Compliance with the grammar rules

The meaning of this point is also very clear. In every writing, we must follow the sentence writing rules. The verb and the subject of the sentence must be harmonious ([Ishraghi, 2016; P. 73](#)).

### Unpleasant Features of Writing:

1- Inadequacy: It is to be too short and brevity in the writing. Therefore, the failure of the form causes incorrect meaning and difficulty in understanding the content.

2- Scattering: It is that the author does not put the important concepts and elements of the writing in their place, to play the subject in a random and scattered manner. Therefore, speech loses its tact and becomes unpleasant.

3- Coarseness: It is that the speech loses its smoothness and pleasantness due to adding unpleasant words and compounds, it turns out to be coarse and abrasive. It means that listening to it will make your ears heavy, reading it will make your tongue heavy, and you will hate it.

4- Insinuations: It is that the speech is extended beyond certain limits, and there are innuendoes and frills in it. Therefore, the thread of speech will go beyond what it started with.

5- Monotony: It means that the author always speaks on the same tone and he/she homogenized the sentences from the point of view of the composition, because of the variety from the point of view of form and freshness from the point of view of meaning. Therefore, the repetition of the same music becomes a source of nose fatigue and mind irritation.

6- Foreign imitation: it means that the author imitates a foreign language in the way he expresses the content, in the combination of sentences and the use of words. Or use

grammatical elements of another language instead of the main words too much ([Yamin, 2016; P. 19-21](#)).

### Conclusion

The researcher must have sufficient expertise and experience in the field he/she is researching and avoid any personal and group prejudices and material dependencies. According to the principles, he should "seek the truth" and study impartially and unbiasedly analyze the results of his statistics and experiments.

Initiative, patience and persistence, necessary knowledge of the subject, familiarity with sources, familiarity with the principles and standards of writing and a sense of trustworthiness. He should take into account the good and bad qualities of his writing, so that his work is freed from the defects of writing.

The researcher should be philanthropic and base the research program on the welfare and needs of the society. The researcher must be free-thinking, humble and finally, a real human being, with holy goals, faithful and committed and bound to the principles of religion and scientific principles that the result of such a reasonable and far from biased research has reached desirable scientific and practical results and is acceptable to everyone and will always remain so.

**Conflict of Interest:** All authors express no conflict of interest in any part of the research.

### References

- Ahmadi, J. (2016). Library and social research method, 4th edition. Kabul: Hamed Resalat Publications.
- Anuri, H. (1994). Ritual of writing, 6th edition. Mashhad: Payam Noor Publications.
- Fatuhi, M. (2013). Rules for writing a research paper, 16th edition. Tehran: Sokhon Publications.
- Gilani, A. S. (2016). Written and edited, 16th edition. Tehran: Samit Publications.
- Ishraghi, S. M. A. (2011). Writing alphabet, first edition. Kabul: Yusufzad Publications.
- Ishraghi, S. M. A. (2016). Code of writing, fourth edition. Kabul: Saeed Publications.
- Ishraghi, S. M. A. (2022). Literary research method and thesis and essay writing, fifth edition. Kabul: Saeed Publications.

Mohammadi Far, M. R. (2002). Writing editing style sheet, second edition. Tehran: Printing Organization Publications.

Rezaei, M. G. (2006). Research method and recognition of literary references, third edition. Mashhad: Payam Noor University Press.

Tusi, B. (2003). Research guide and scientific principles of essay writing, 7th edition, Tehran: Tabran Publications.

Yamin, M. H. (2016). Writing and research method, 4th edition. Kabul: Saeed Publications.

Zulfiqari, H. (2008). Writing and Essay Workbook (3), first edition. Tehran: Asatir Publishing House.

### Bio-Data

Musafer is an Assistant Professor of Dari language and literature at Nangarhar University.

Yaseeni is an Assistant Professor of English at Nangarhar University in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. He specializes in linguistics, language, and soft skills.

Khaliqyar is an Assistant Professor of Pashto at Nangarhar University in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. His academic interests include Literature.