

CASE STUDY for Writing Map Exercise

Overview:

In this study, you conducted research on two types of fishing nets in Baja California Sur, Mexico.

- One is a regular bottom-set gillnet, which many fishers already use in this area
- The other is a modified bottom-set gillnet, which has fewer buoys (floats) than the regular net. You call this the “buoyless net”

You measured two things about these nets:

- How many Loggerhead sea turtles were accidentally caught (“bycatch”) in the 2 different types of net
- How many kilograms of target fish species were caught in the 2 different types of net

You also measured the economic value of the fish that were caught in these two types of net. You did this to compare the money that fishers could earn from these two nets.

Activity

We will create a paper outline or a “Writing Map” based on this study. Your group will construct an outline on the Writing Map sheet, which is divided into **Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion**. After you construct your Writing Map, we will work on developing a **Conclusion**.

(English or Burmese OK for this activity!)

CASE STUDY for Writing Map Exercise

A. Writing Map (35 minutes)

You have a packet of cards with more information about this study.

These cards have important information related to **Methods, Results, and Introduction**.

The basics – Read these cards and work together as a group to place the cards in the appropriate section (**Methods, Results, Introduction**).

Take 35 minutes to do this.

B. What is your message? (35-40 minutes)

Why is this interesting/important? What does it mean? What is your message? – Discuss the meaning of this study. Why is this research important?

What do the results tell us? (**Introduction, Discussion**)

* Introduction: What additional background would be useful for your readers? What information establishes the foundation for the research that you did? What is the key message you want to communicate to your reader?

Write additional Introduction Cards + Develop a topic sentence

* Discussion: What do your results mean? Why are they important or interesting? How can they be applied to management? What are possible weaknesses in your study, and how would you explain them? What are next steps for this research? How is this research important beyond this specific case study?

Write ideas on cards and place them in the Discussion section. Then discuss how you can make a strong message from these ideas.

Take 35 minutes to do this.

C. Craft a Conclusion and Title (15 minutes for Conclusion + 5 minutes for Title)

With your group, identify what you think the big “headlines” or key points from your research are. Write these ideas on cards.

Then, based on these cards, write a 2-3 sentence **Conclusion** that:

- Highlights the most important points from your research
- Emphasizes “ways forward”
- Leaves your readers with a strong, “big picture” message about why this research is important for science/natural resource management/the world

Then, think of a strong title!