

# Information for Contributors

## Aims and Scope

The Malaysian Journal of Qualitative Research (MJQR) is a biennial publication of the Qualitative Research Association of Malaysia (QRAM). Qualitative research methods is defined as research in which the researcher collects and analyzes data, and reports research findings using qualitative approaches or methods in a programme of inquiry.

The aims of MJQR are:

- (1) To promote and enhance the understanding of qualitative research and its applications.
- (2) To serve as a platform for a forum on the fundamental topics of qualitative research, including matters of ethics.
- (3) To facilitate the sharing of ideas and critical problems faced by qualitative researchers and practitioners.
- (4) To provide an avenue for researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas on the practical applications of qualitative research.
- (5) To serve as an outlet for sharing and dissemination of qualitative research work in Malaysia and outside Malaysia.

MJQR seeks empirical research studies from a variety of perspectives including academics and practitioners in the field of gender and women studies, family studies, social work, psychology, sociology, education, evaluation, religious studies, geography, communication, management, marketing, accounting, health sciences, and other related disciplines across the social, behavioral, and human sciences. We welcome your work whether it is in progress or a completed piece. Hence, MJQR seeks:

- (i) research in the social, behavioral, health, and human sciences that employs qualitative research methods. Apart from the presentation of qualitative findings, these studies need to include aspects of their research that advance knowledge of qualitative inquiry.
- (ii) methodological issues that advance knowledge about qualitative research methods that span across the social, behavioral, health, and human sciences. The topics may include all aspects and stages of qualitative processes, the various techniques of data collection and analysis, innovative theories and techniques, use of technology in qualitative research, ethics and qualitative reporting focusing on the report writing, researcher's experiences and role/s during fieldwork.

## Guidelines for Submission and Preparation of Articles

- (a) **Format.** Article should be submitted in quadruplicate to the Editor. Manuscripts must be typed using New Times Roman (Font 12) on one side of an **A4 page** only and all parts must be **double-spaced** with **5 cm (1.2 in) margins**. Authors are to submit both hard and soft copies of the manuscript. Editors cannot accept the responsibility for damage to or loss of manuscripts submitted.

Manuscripts will not be considered for publication if they have been published before or if they are under review by another journal or publisher. Papers accepted for publication must not be published elsewhere without the consent of the Editor and Publishers.

Disks must be clearly marked with the following information: Operating system; disk format (e.g. DS/DD); word processor used, including version number; authors' names; short title of article. Please ensure that the disk file exactly matches the accompanying printout. The hard-copy will be considered as the definitive version.

The journal will only accept papers submitted in English. All manuscripts are requested to be prepared in accordance with the journal's style, which is outlined below.

- (b) **Length.** The length of an article should be between 5000 and 7000 words inclusive of all documents (table, illustrations, bibliographies as well as appended texts).
- (c) **Title Page Affiliations.** The title page should carry the title, the author(s)' name(s) and affiliations and their affiliated institution(s). In the case of a long title, an abbreviated version of no more than 40 characters (including spaces) should be supplied by the author for running heads. Enclose a passport size photograph and brief biographical note of the author(s) with a corresponding address.
- (d) **Abstract.** Provide an abstract of 250–300 words on the first page of the first hard copy.
- (e) **Figures, Tables and Illustrations.** Each should be clearly titled and numbered consecutively. All visual presentations including photographs, illustrations, tables, charts, diagrams, etc. must be camera ready for immediate reproduction. All original figures or glossy should be provided. A list of the figure, tables and illustrations captions should be typed on separate sheets at the end of the manuscripts.
- (f) **Headings.** Headings should be numbered, as illustrated by the following:

**[1] An Introduction to Research**  
(Major division, placed at the centre, in bold)

**[2] Doing Field Research**  
(Major divisions, placed at margin, in bold)

**[3] *Types of Field Research***  
(Margin subdivisions, placed at margin in bold and italic)

**[4] *Participant observation at research site***  
(Sub-subdivisions, placed at the margin, in bold and italics)

- (g) **Notes.** Endnotes may be used but avoid footnotes.
- (h) **References.** Please adhere to the instructions provided for citations in text and the reference.
- (i) **In text.** The author(s)' name(s) and date of publication should be given, e.g. (Jones, 1975); for quotations (Jones & Smith, 1974, p.79).
- (j) **In references.** References should be cited as illustrated below:

## BOOKS

Marohaini Yusoff (Ed.) (2004). *Composing behaviours and processes of secondary school students*. Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Press.

Woods, P. (2001). *Successful writing for qualitative researchers*. London: Routledge Falmer.

Ely, M., Vinz, R., Downing, M. & Anzul, M. (1997). *On writing qualitative research*. London: The Falmer Press.

## CHAPTER IN BOOK

Denzin, N.K. (1994). The art and politics of interpretation. In Denzin, N.K. & Lincoln, Y.S. (Eds.), *Handbook for qualitative research* (pp.485-500). California: Sage Publications.

## JOURNAL ARTICLE

Ball, S.J. (1990). Self-doubt and soft data: Social and technical trajectories in ethnographic fieldwork. *Qualitative Studies in Education*, 3, pp.157-171.

## UNPUBLISHED THESIS/DISSERTATION

Samuel, M. (1992). *The social construction of text: A study of two contrasting pedagogies*. Unpublished doctoral thesis, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

## INTERNET

Hoepfl, M.C. (1997). Choosing qualitative research: A primer for technology education researchers. *Journal of Technology Education*, 9(1). Retrieved on 12th April, 2005 from <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JTE/v9n1/hoepfl.html>.

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Loughran, J.J., & Gunstone, R.F. (1996). *Self-study in teaching and research*. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, April 1996.

## NEWSPAPER

Alina Simon. (11 September 2003). Education: A call to corporate sector. *New Straits Times*, p. 8.

- (k) **Use of Language.** Authors are responsible for delivering their paper in good English (using British, rather than American spelling). Authors are also reminded that they are writing for an international audience and advised to avoid national colloquialisms, sexist language and idiomatic use of language.
- (l) **Other points.** Proofs will be sent to the author (first-named author if no corresponding author is identified on multi-authored papers) and should be returned within the specified time given, preferably by e-mail. Corrections should be restricted to typesetting errors. Authors are requested to answer all queries in full. Subsequent additional corrections will not be possible, so please ensure that your first communication is complete.
- (m) **Refereeing Procedure.** A minimum of two referees as well as the editor will review each manuscript. The refereeing process may take up a minimum of two months from the date of receipt. Where manuscript revisions are required, authors must ensure that books and articles cited in "References" actually appear in the text and vice versa. Manuscripts that require extensive review may take more than two months.

