



5.9

Writing an abstract**Biology briefing sheet**

During this activity, you will write an abstract for the article you wrote in Activity 5.7 Writing a scientific review article. This briefing sheet gives you the opportunity to read an abstract and identify its key features.

Note that the abstract below has been written for a review article, rather than a scientific research paper. A review is a scientific paper that draws together the findings of a range of researchers who have published their work in various different publications. The article you wrote in 5.7 is effectively a review, so your abstract may bear some resemblance to that shown below.

Abstract: Quorum sensing (QS) has traditionally referred to a mechanism of communication within a species of bacteria. However, emerging research implicates QS in interspecies communication and competition, and such systems have been proposed in a wide variety of bacteria. This activity of bacterial QS also extends to relationships between bacteria and eukaryotes and host–pathogen interactions in both clinical and agricultural settings are of particular interest. These relationships are particularly pertinent in light of the rising prevalence of antibiotic resistant bacteria. In this tutorial review we describe bacterial QS and its capacity in interspecies and interkingdom interactions, as well as the corresponding eukaryotic responses.

After reading the above text, you should write down your ideas about the key features of the abstract. You may choose to do this as bullet points, or as a flow diagram. Use the space below.

You should now write the abstract for your article following these ideas.