

## CHAPTER 5

600 Examples of Academic Language

## GENERAL LITERATURE REVIEW

*This is the part of your paper where you refer extensively to relevant research and theory in the field. You should make connections between the studies you have read and where you position yourself among these studies. It is important to show your audience that you have actively engaged with the relevant body of knowledge your research is based on. Sentences 217-285 will help you do that.*

A number of/Numerous scholars have...

- 217. conducted research on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 218. investigated why \_\_\_\_\_.
- 219. noted that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 220. correctly observed that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 221. examined the role of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 222. considered the implications of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 223. recognized the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 224. sought to problematize \_\_\_\_\_.
- 225. pointed out that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 226. suggested that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 227. attempted to identify \_\_\_\_\_.
- 228. proposed theories to explain \_\_\_\_\_.
- 229. found evidence that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 230. sought to understand **phenomena**<sup>[43]</sup> such as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 231. offered explanations for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 232. argued that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 233. **contended**<sup>[44]</sup> that \_\_\_\_\_.
- 234. argued in favor of/against \_\_\_\_\_.
- 235. voiced concern about \_\_\_\_\_.
- 236. taken issue with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 237. grappled with the issue of \_\_\_\_\_.

238. openly questioned whether \_\_\_\_.
239. raised doubts regarding \_\_\_\_.
240. stressed the importance of \_\_\_\_.
241. carried out empirical studies on \_\_\_\_.
242. drawn parallels between \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.
243. turned their attention to \_\_\_\_.
244. provided empirical evidence supporting \_\_\_\_.
245. written extensively about \_\_\_\_.
246. made the claim that \_\_\_\_.
247. acknowledged the fact that \_\_\_\_.
248. It is generally agreed that \_\_\_\_.
249. Most of the research on \_\_\_\_ suggests \_\_\_\_.
250. Current research seems to indicate that \_\_\_\_.
251. Current studies appear to support the notion that \_\_\_\_.
252. Recent research has tended to show \_\_\_\_.
253. In the literature on \_\_\_\_, there seems to be general agreement that \_\_\_\_.
254. It is generally accepted wisdom that \_\_\_\_.
255. Empirical evidence appears to confirm the notion that \_\_\_\_.

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**On hedging:**

*An important feature of academic writing is the use of “hedging” (tentative language), which enables you to soften the tone of your assertions and make claims that are proportionate to the evidence available. In sentences 248-255, this is achieved through the use of adverbs (e.g.: generally), quantifiers (e.g.: most) and verbs such as suggest, tend, seem and appear. Researchers in the humanities and social sciences often benefit from the judicious use of hedging. However, if you are writing a research paper in the natural sciences, you should use hedging more sparingly. If in doubt, ask your instructor first.*

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256. Definitions of \_\_\_\_ emerging from \_\_\_\_ include \_\_\_\_.
257. The literature on \_\_\_\_ has its roots in \_\_\_\_.
258. Proponents of \_\_\_\_ have pointed out that \_\_\_\_.
259. Despite differences in \_\_\_\_, there are areas of agreement.

260. Another area of (dis)agreement among researchers is \_\_\_\_\_.
261. Most researchers working in the area of \_\_\_\_\_ **agree**<sup>[45]</sup> on/that \_\_\_\_\_.
262. Much of the debate over \_\_\_\_\_ has revolved around \_\_\_\_\_.
263. Much previous work on \_\_\_\_\_ has focused on \_\_\_\_\_.
264. A recent line of research has focused on \_\_\_\_\_.
265. \_\_\_\_\_ has generated an impressive amount of research.
266. Previous **research**<sup>[46]</sup> has supported the hypothesis that \_\_\_\_\_.
267. There is a growing body of research on \_\_\_\_\_.
268. Previous studies have demonstrated \_\_\_\_\_.
269. Laboratory-based studies have clearly shown \_\_\_\_\_.
270. A considerable **amount**<sup>[47]</sup> of research has focused on \_\_\_\_\_.
271. Past studies have yielded some important insights into \_\_\_\_\_.
272. Past studies have hinted at a link between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
273. A number of studies have explored the relationship between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
274. A recent line of research has established that \_\_\_\_\_.
275. The existing literature emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_.
276. The current literature on \_\_\_\_\_ suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.
277. The review of the literature shows that \_\_\_\_\_.
278. Current theories hypothesize that \_\_\_\_\_.
279. A widely accepted **hypothesis**<sup>[48]</sup> is that \_\_\_\_\_.
280. Empirical evidence has supported the claim that \_\_\_\_\_.
281. The idea that \_\_\_\_\_ is central to theories of \_\_\_\_\_.
282. While there is wide agreement that \_\_\_\_\_, views differ on \_\_\_\_\_.
283. While there is broad agreement that \_\_\_\_\_, it remains controversial whether \_\_\_\_\_.
284. While early studies suggested that \_\_\_\_\_, later research seems to indicate that \_\_\_\_\_.
285. While it is generally agreed that \_\_\_\_\_, there is less consensus over **whether or not**<sup>[49]</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.