

**Use the following formula when constructing your APA Abstract:**

1. First sentence should mention the paper by title. Likewise, you must show the main point of discussion for the full paper. Be very specific about your speaking points. In this particular case you are showing a proposed plan for the outcome of your paper. Detail the goals of your conclusion.

Do not restate your thesis. Your introduction paragraph reveals your thesis statement.

2. The second sentence alludes to a form of defense you will use.

However, do not begin supplying major forms of defense in this section.

3. The closing, third sentence specifies what type of research was conducted or what type of major resource was used, plus alludes to the end result.

Do not repeat any information that was used in your paper. Ideally the abstract is written last, after the completion of your full document.

4. **Your full abstract be sure to answer:**

- *what* the paper is discussing
- *why* your discussion is important
- *how* you will defend your argument
- what period of time you are discussing (*when*)
- what region of the globe you are discussing (*where*)
- what people or culture is a part of the discussion (*who*)

5. Abstract consists of 100-250 word count; use a block paragraph.

6. Place a break between paragraph and keywords.

7. Keywords should be five to ten specific search phrases.

### **Abstract**

“The Protocol of Vengeance in Viking-age Scandinavia” seeks to discuss the importance of honor and the established structure of revenge in Northern Europe, namely Iceland, between the 9th and 10th centuries. In spite of both modern and contemporaneous portrayals of a violent people without law, the aim of this paper is to demonstrate the specific cases in which Viking society condoned and employed violence. To this effect, the paper will use particular examples from several major sagas, the only written records of pre-Christian Scandinavia, to outline the precise nuances of violence that corresponded with particular circumstances and stature of the individuals involved.

*Keywords:* Viking culture, pre-Christian Scandinavia, Iceland, 9th and 10th centuries,  
Viking sagas

**Abstract (incorrect)**

**This paper will** review historical documents from early Europe. **I will** argue against **modern** presentation of the Viking people, as portrayed on contemporary television programs. At the same time, **it** does acknowledge some cultural approved forms of violence by **these people**. Sources include **major documents from the period** to explain how violence was particular to a justified cause. Keywords: violence, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, Vikings

**Major Issues with this paragraph:**

1. fifty-eight word count
2. use of first person pronouns
3. over-use of vague pronouns (*this, it, these*)
4. the paragraph successfully avoids showing specifics of the paper's defenses
5. "modern" is a vague term; "contemporary" means the present, current era
6. keywords are too general, not specific to the argument
7. only four keywords are supplied
8. the presentation of keywords is incorrect
9. wrong font choice, wrong font size, wrong spacing of lines