How to write a scientific paper
(summary of article by Robert Day)

Name the title and abstract after you have finished the paper

1. Title: as few as possible words while adequately describing the content of the paper
2. Abstract
   a) state the principal objectives and scope of the investigation
   b) describe the methodology employed
   c) summarize the results
   d) state the principal conclusion
   e) do not exceed 250 words
   f) make the abstract and title the last things you do in the paper
3. Introduction
   a) nature and scope of problem investigated
   b) brief review of pertinent literature to orient the reader
   c) define any jargon in the introduction
4. Methods/Approach: state method of investigation, materials used, approach, scope
5. Results: Keep results short and sweet
6. Discussion
   a) try to present the principles, relationships, and generalizations shown by the results
   b) point out exceptions or lack of correlation and define unsettled points
   c) show how results agree or contrast with previous published results
   d) discuss theoretical implications as well as practical applications
   e) state conclusions clearly as possible
   f) summarize your evidence for each conclusion
7. Acknowledgments
   a) acknowledge any significant help you received
   b) acknowledge any funding or other resources which supported the work
8. Literature cited: double check the references when proofreading, before submission, and again during the galley proof stage.