

# Anatomy of an Abstract for a Scholarly Journal Article

## A Five-sentence Model

### Abstract

In recent years, high-profile fatalities involving school-aged pedestrians crossing the street at designated crosswalks have elevated the issue of pedestrian safety, especially with respect to highly vulnerable pedestrians. While Section 136(1) of The Highway Traffic Act clearly outlines the requirement to stop at posted stop signs, little is known about the average driver's propensity to comply with this law. This study gained insight into this question by observing motorists as they approached a suburban stop sign, and then coding their behaviour into one of three categories: "full stop," "rolling stop," or "slow and go." The study's findings suggest that the majority of drivers do not comply with the requirement to stop at stop signs, with more than one in four drivers almost completely disregarding the stop sign. These findings suggest a need to solicit greater compliance rates amongst Ontario drivers with respect to Section 136(1) of the HTA.

Sentence	Objective
1st:	Establishes the general Issue.
2nd:	Provides more specific detail about the issue, then segues into the purpose of the study.
3rd:	Briefly describes the study's methodology.
4th:	Briefly outlines the study's findings, often providing some specific statistical data.
5th:	A brief statement of the study's implications for society, policy, or research.

### Please note:

Directions for further study are not explicitly discussed in most abstracts, although they may at times refer to the general need to conduct more research in a certain area.