

## PROBLEM SET

Answer questions 1 through 5 for a scientific paper about AIDS knowledge for different language groups in the United States (results shown in table 6.2 on p. 130 of *Writing about Numbers*, 2nd Edition). Assume you are writing for a social science journal with a 5,000-word limit for research articles (e.g., several double-spaced pages apiece for the introduction, literature review, and conclusion).

1. For that scientific paper,
  - a. write an outline of the introduction, including complete topic sentences for each major paragraph.
  - b. list the kinds of numeric background information you would incorporate, and suggest types of quantitative comparisons to highlight why the topic is interesting or important.
2. Write an outline of the literature review, including headings for the different topics for which you would summarize published literature.
3. Write the results section for the scientific paper. Summarize direction, magnitude and statistical significance of differences
  - a. across language groups;
  - b. across knowledge topic areas.
4. Write an outline of the concluding section, including notes on the following issues.
  - a. How would you summarize the main numeric results?
  - b. How would the statistical significance of findings influence the way you discuss the results?
  - c. List the types of numeric background information you would use to show how findings of that study might be applied to health education programs in the United States.
5. Write a title, structured 150-word abstract, and keywords for the paper.



## WRITING SCIENTIFIC PAPERS AND REPORTS