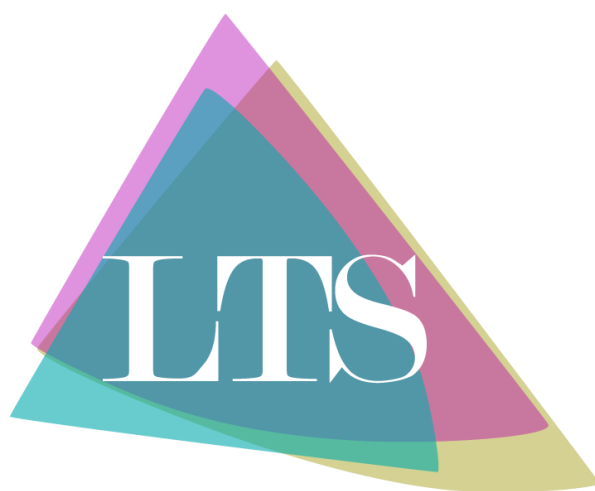


The Journal of Languages, Texts,  
and Society:

# Top Tips



This advice is based on the most common feedback received by reviewers and the LTS Team.

## 1.1 Content

- Think about how you are **positioning** yourself in relation to the existing work in your field – this is one of the most important things to signpost
- Analysis needs to be **substantiated** with wider reading and/or textual evidence
- Methodological decisions need to be clearly outlined and justified
- Ensure you demonstrate engagement with critical literature
- Highlight what makes your work **original**. Reviewers frequently say that authors are repeating findings that have already been published, refer to too small a set of existing studies, apply older methodologies to a different context without any methodological innovation, or provide no analysis at all.

## 1.2 Writing and technical skills

- Check that your **MLA referencing style** is consistent
- The footnote number should always come *after* the full stop
- Make sure your sentence structure is **clear** and **concise**
- Check for grammatical errors and edit/proof-read your work at least twice before submitting
- Take care with your **choice of words** when using technical or ambiguous language, especially if a word has multiple meanings
- When including an **image**, make sure to include a caption and attribution (i.e. describe the image, its function, and acknowledge copyright)
- Check that your appendices are referred to clearly and are appropriate
- Make sure to refer to **the Journal's Style guide** for how to adhere to our format and referencing standards. If you have any questions, please contact the Production Team ([pg-lts@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:pg-lts@nottingham.ac.uk))

### 1.3 Structuring an article

- Make sure you state your aims and contribution to the field clearly at the beginning of the article
- Literature reviews need to be concise, critical and match the focus of the rest of your article
- Be consistent in your signposting of your overall argument and focus – if you set something up in your introduction, make sure you deliver on this in your article