

Perimeter description of research publications on drones by prolific engineering writers

Abstract

Teaching technical writing to engineering researchers particularly post graduate students is a demanding and complex task. Often the challenge faced by the language instructor is in having inadequate understanding on students' expected writing output which is engineering research publication. While the language instructors may find the language use aspect manageable, it is the understanding on expected writing output for engineering discipline that is a challenge; therefore, supporting language module developers to understand those expected outputs is essential and needed for the advancement in language teaching. In view on the need for the description of the targeted output which is engineering publication, this study focuses on supporting the understanding of engineering research publication specifically on drones. This study is aimed to describe the perimeter of research publication on drones written by prolific engineering writers. This paper uses bibliometric analysis method which is based on identifying the core research and authors, as well as the works that cited them. This study examines 275 research publications indexed in SCOPUS database and also investigates 1947 research publications that cited the 275 publications as reference source. The findings show that the publications are mostly articles, conference papers and reviews deriving mostly from the US, China and the UK whereas the citing documents are mostly from China, the UK and the US. This paper presents the description on the perimeter for both groups. Such description provides a ready narrative to language instructors as well as ready narratives and guidance on writing/content dimension for young scholars embarking on writing scholarly articles on drone research.