

Abstract

Different interpretations of history have allowed 21st century academics to make different conclusions about the consequences of historical actions. The causes of 1874 War between the powerful **Cræpponia** and the weaker **Ploppoya** are numerous and varied. The losses suffered by **Cræpponia** resulted in a period of regional tension and to this day, one still hears about "The Great Squirrel War". In order to have a fuller understanding of this topic, this essay will examine the question, **Is what extent was the trade embargo on the export of Cræpponian squirrels the main cause of the 1874 war between Cræpponia and Ploppoya?**

To answer the question, four well-recognised causes of the war are examined: the naval threat, political maneuvering, religious tension and the squirrel trade embargo. Secondary sources were used to investigate the economic importance of the squirrel trade to the economy of **Cræpponia**. Data taken from the archives of the **Cræpponian** and **Ploppoyan** governments were available through the **Internet**. The research covers the period from 1830, when trade between the two countries was at its peak, to 1874 when the war started.

A careful evaluation of the proposed causes of the war shows that while the naval threat by **Ploppoya** and the political maneuvering of the **Cræpponian** leaders were important contributing factors to the war, it was the **Ploppoyan** embargo on the export of squirrels from **Cræpponia** that was the main cause of the war. The loss of export revenues was catastrophic to the economy, and the government was forced to declare war. A limitation of the research is that it is not possible to state whether or not the other two factors would have led to the war had there not been trade embargo.

(283 words)

word count

3 paragraphs?

RQ? -in bold?

scope?

conclusion?

How to Write an Abstract

An abstract is a concise, stand-alone statement that conveys the essential information contained in an article, book, research paper, or document. Written in a direct non-repetitive style, the abstract should:

- identify the problem (research question or thesis) investigated.
- describe the scope or method of investigation.
- summarize the results.
- state the conclusion(s).

Writing the Abstract:

1. Highlight the sentences in the paper that detail the problem (objective) investigated.
2. Highlight the research question (or thesis).
3. Identify information (phrases, key words) that shows the scope and sequence of the investigation—identify but do not explain.
4. Condense the conclusion into a few concise sentences.

Words of Advice:

1. For the first draft, don't worry about length. Just try to cover all the important components that are required in the abstract. Use all the information that you highlighted and identified as you read through the essay (or article).
2. Take a word count before you begin to edit.
3. Begin editing by deleting words, phrases and sentences that are less important or provide more explanation than necessary.
4. Look for places where sentences can be combined to omit extra words or condense ideas.
5. Delete unnecessary background information.
6. Do not use jargon, abbreviations, direct quotes or citations.
7. Avoid writing in the first person (I). Rather than saying, "In this essay I discuss...", try a more formal approach by starting your abstract with as opening similar to:
 - "This essay discusses the effects of Specifically, this paper investigates (restate research question)"
 - "This essay examines how It attempts to answer the question"
7. Write to the required word count. If a 300 word abstract is required, get as close to the required number of words as possible.