The research gap in the Introductions of Arabic research articles

Previous studies that used Swales' CARS model (1990, 2004) found that Move 2 (Establishing a niche) is insignificant in Arabic RA introductions, and most of its instances addressed the needs instead of creating the gap from the research world. This study examines 60 RA introductions in the field of education to further examine this phenomenon. The findings indicated that Move 2 was present in less than 50% in the introductory sections. However, the analysis was extended to all the subsections of the introductions and it was found that all introductions included a subheading entitled the Problem of the Study where Move 2 was employed 100%. The analysis of the strategies of Move 2 in the introductory sections and the Problem of the Study subsections reflected some similarities and differences. In both sections, expressing the need and showing the paucity of research were very common. However, making a comparison between the study and previous ones was common in the introductory sections while problem-raising was frequent in the Problem of the Study subheadings. The study concludes with suggestions and recommendations for future studies.