

Chapter 6

Writing a Short 500 Word Report

In this chapter, we will learn the following to World Class standards:

- **Setting the Margins**
- **Changing the Font and Font Size**
- **Adding Name, Date and Other Information**
- **Adding Paper Title**
- **Formatting and Typing the Paper**
- **Adding a Bibliography**
- **Creating Page Number Heading**

Setting the Margins

To set the margins, go to the **Page Layout** tab and select the **Margins** tool on the **Page Setup** panel (Figure 6.1). When you select the tool, a number of options will drop down beneath it. Select the **Normal** margin setting with 1-inch margins on all sides of the document (Figure 6.2).

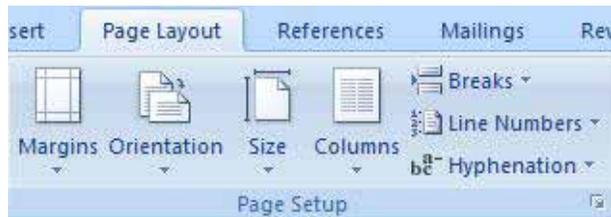


Figure 6.1 – Page Setup Panel

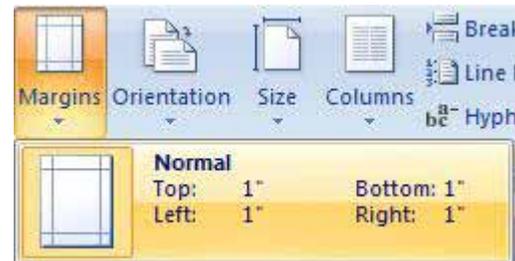


Figure 6.2 – Selecting Normal Margin Setting

Changing the Font and Font Size

To set the font we need to go to the **Home** tab and select the top left text box on the **Font** panel. A long list of different font types will drop down. We will select **Times New Roman** for our font (Figure 6.3). Next to the font text box is the font size text box. We will select a font size of **12** (Figure 6.4).



Figure 6.3 – Selecting “Times New Roman”



Figure 6.4 – Selecting Size “12” Font

Adding Name, Date and Other Information

At the top left of our paper we are going to type in four pieces of information. The first is our name. The second is the name of the person, most likely a professor, or organization for which we are writing the paper. Third is the class in which the paper is due and fourth is the full date. We want to type each of these on its own separate line with no indent. We will begin with our name and then continue to add the rest of our information until the paper looks like Figure 6.5.



Figure 6.5 – Adding Name and Other Information

Adding Paper Title

Below our name, we want to add the title of our paper. The title should be something relevant to the topic of our paper, yet thought provoking and interesting. For our paper, we are writing about time so our title will be “Modern Time Measurement.” This title indicates to the reader exactly what the paper is going to be about, measuring time. To format our title, we will keep both the font and font size the same, but we need to underline, bold and center align the text. We will start by typing our title, “Modern Time Measurement.” Next, we need to highlight it with our cursor, selecting the text by dragging with the left mouse button. With the text highlighted, we will first select the **Bold** and **Underline** tools on the **Font** panel (Figure 6.6). Then we will center the title using the **Center** tool on the **Paragraph** panel (Figure 6.7). When we are finished, our title should appear as in Figure 6.8.



Figure 6.6 – Bold and Underline Tools

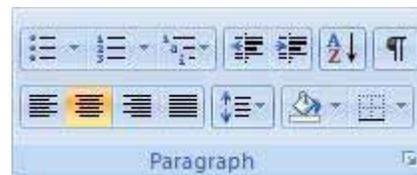


Figure 6.7 – Center Tool

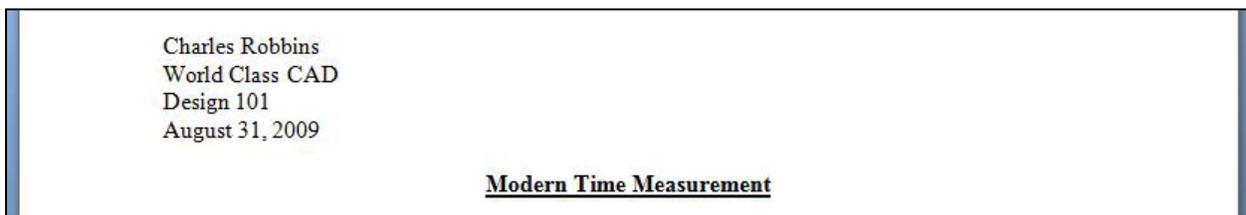


Figure 6.8 – Finished Title

Formatting and Typing the Paper

For the main body of our paper, we want to first unselect the **Bold** and **Underline** tools and then left align the text with the **Align Text Left** tool (Figure 6.9). We also want to indent the first line of every paragraph. To do this we need to select the top left, upside down triangle on the ruler marking the margins. We will right click the triangle and then drag to the right ½ inch (Figure

6.10). If the ruler is not showing, all we need to do is select the **View Ruler** tool located at the top of the scroll bar on the right of the screen (Figure 6.11).



Figure 6.9 – Align Text Left Tool

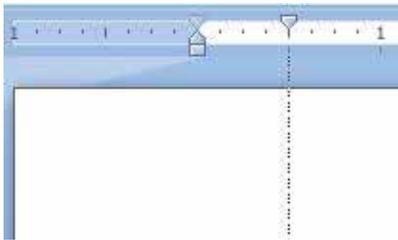


Figure 6.10 – Moving Indent 1/2 Inch



Figure 6.11 – View Ruler Tool

Writing the Paragraphs

To write a college paper in Microsoft Word, we can follow a formula that will structure your ideas into a format that is symmetrical and easy to follow. Symmetry or predictable patterns create a pleasant arena for our words to reside within the sentences and paragraphs. Begin the first paragraph with a topic sentence, and think of three of the most important facts to support the idea in that first line of words. Without trying to add too many flourishes to the supporting statements, type them into the first paragraph, since in a word processing program we will be able to return to the document and change individual words with corresponding synonyms and place adverbs, adjectives and prepositional phrases into the sentences to produce a flowing description of ideas. End the first paragraph with your own conclusion that you can defend such as do you agree with the facts or what will the outcome be if we follow your thoughts.

When we start the second paragraph, take the first fact or statement and expound of that subject using three or more facts to explain yourself. We can add quotes, a graph or chart and a picture in the report to add clarity. If we use a graphic to illustrate our concept, utilize your own digital image or create your chart, so you maintain the originality of the report. If we wish to use a chart or image from the Internet, email the web site's author and ask for permission to utilize the copyrighted picture. In addition, if we employ data from a book or web page, we need to record the location of the information, so we can give that author or group credit for their work in the bibliography at the end of the paper. End the second paragraph with a good conclusion that hopefully lead the reader towards the third paragraph.

We will continue to build the short report by extracting the second fact from the first section and we construct the third paragraph. As we can see in the table below, we maintain the same pattern with the fourth paragraph. Whenever we construct reports professionally, we want to add quotes from key individuals who have critical input to attach credibility to our short document. If we are designing a new kitchen, having statements from the head chef recommending the equipment and from the company controller establishing that the plan is within budget are excellent quotes for the research paper.

Close the report with a conclusion in the last paragraph that either recommends to the audience that more research is needed or that this is a final and thorough description of events. In the table below, there is a sample template that we can to create the short report.

Paragraph	Pos	Description	Support
Paragraph 1	1A	Topic Sentence	
	1B	Primary Fact	
	1C	Secondary Fact	
	1D	Third Fact	
	1E	Conclusion and Lead In	
		+	Picture
Paragraph 2	2A	Restate Primary Fact	
	2B	Support First Fact 1	Quote
	2C	Support First Fact 2	
	2D	Support First Fact 3	
	2E	Conclusion and Lead In	
		+	
Paragraph 3	3A	Restate Secondary Fact	
	3B	Support Second Fact 1	
	3C	Support Second Fact 2	Quote
	3D	Support Second Fact 3	
	3E	Conclusion and Lead In	
		+	Graph or Chart
Paragraph 4	4A	Restate Third Fact	
	4B	Support Third Fact 1	
	4C	Support Third Fact 2	
	4D	Support Third Fact 3	Quote
	4E	Conclusion and Lead In	
		+	
Paragraph 5	5A	Restate Conclusion	
	5B	Restate Primary Fact Conclusion	
	5C	Restate Secondary Fact Conclusion	
	5D	Restate Third Fact Conclusion	
	5E	Close with Memorable Statement	

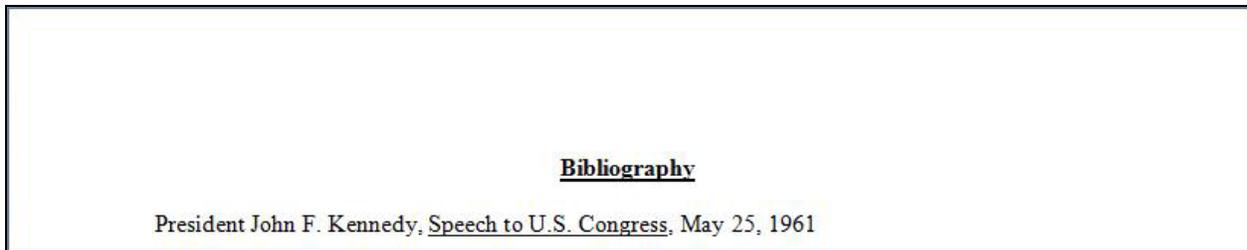


Figure 6.16 – Adding a Source

Creating Page Number Heading

To add the header with the page number and our name in front of it is a very easy task. The first thing we will do is to select the **Page Number** tool from the **Header & Footer** panel on the **Insert** tab. From there we will select the Top of Page option (Figure 6.17). Of the options that appear from the Top of Page option, we want to select the third, **Plain Number 3** (Figure 6.18). After selecting the Plain Number 3 header, the page number will appear at the top right of all the pages in our paper (Figure 19). With the page number in place, we need to type in our name to the left of the number. We can do this by placing the cursor to the left of the page number and then typing our name (Figure 6.20). With these page numbers in place, our paper is complete and ready to be handed in to our professor, our boss or any other person for whom we have written the paper.

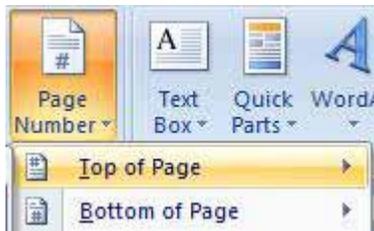


Figure 6.17 – Page Number Tool

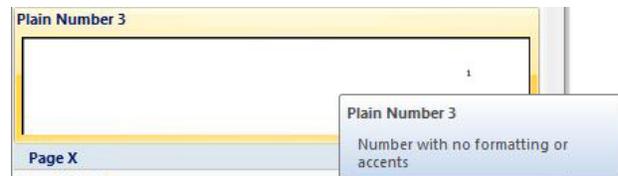


Figure 6.18 – Plain Number 3

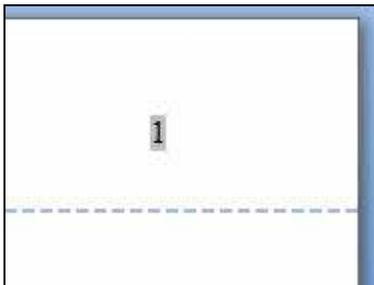


Figure 6.19 – Page Number

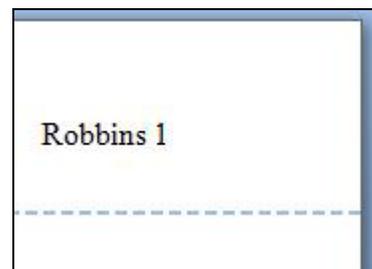


Figure 6.20 – Name and Page Number

*** World Class CAD Challenge 30-05 * - Write a short 500 report about any topic you choose. Type your name and other information with the proper formatting, create a title and type your paper. Use at least one source in your paper and correctly cite it in a bibliography. Last, add the page number header with your name. Repeat this exercise two more times to maintain your World Class ranking.**