

ASHBi



RESEARCH ACCELERATION PROGRAM

# KAKENHI WRITING SEMINAR

Telling your research story effectively

Zoom Online

Friday, August 05 2022

16:00-17:20

# Organizers: WPI-ASHBi & WPI-iCeMS, Kyoto University



WPI requires the WPI institutions to share their knowledge to other Japanese institutions

This seminar is open to  
**"ALL" academic members in Japan**  
(including Kyoto University)

# ASHBi Research Acceleration Unit

Team of *Professionals* to Help Accelerate Academic Research!



**Tadashi Ogawa**  
Unit Head/Professor  
*Ex-PI (Neuroscience)*

## GRANT WRITING



**Makoto Shida**  
University Research Administrator  
*Ex-Business Startup Specialist*

## SCIENTIFIC PAPER WRITING



**Spyros Goulas**  
Scientific Advisor/Lecturer  
*Ex-Researcher & Journal Editor*

## DATA VISUALIZATION



**Hiromi Inoue**  
Research Coordinator  
*Ex-Researcher & Lab Manager*

## PUBLIC RELATIONS



**Tomoki Shimizu**  
Scientific Communicator/Lecturer  
*Ex-Public Information Officer*

ASHBi



RESEARCH ACCELERATION PROGRAM



# Requests to the audience: Q&A

1. If you have a question, please open **“Q&A”** button and submit your question.
2. Choose **“All questions”** to see the questions from other participants.
3. We will answer questions at the **“Q&A session”**.

The image shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, a white box contains the word "Slides" in blue. To the right is a video thumbnail of Makoto Shida. Below the slides, a yellow circle with the number "1" and the word "open" points to a yellow "Q&A" button. A yellow arrow points from this button to a screenshot of the Q&A interface. This interface has a blue border and shows "Q&A" at the top left. Below it, a red circle with the number "2" and the word "choose" points to a red-bordered button labeled "All questions (1)". To its right is a grey button labeled "My questions". Below these buttons, a question from Taro Kyodai is displayed: "Which category should I choose if I obtained my PhD last year? Wakate or Kiban C? Why?". The question is timestamped "04:10 PM" and has a thumbs-up icon and a "Comment" button.

# Today's speakers

## Part 1

### *Evaluation System & Effective Storytelling*



**Makoto Shida**

University Research Administrator  
Research Acceleration Unit, WPI-ASHBi

## Part 2

### *Writing Tips for Early-stage Researchers*



**Daniel Packwood**

PI/Junior Associate Professor  
WPI-iCeMS

## Part 1

# *Evaluation System & Effective Storytelling*



## **Makoto Shida**

University Research Administrator  
Research Acceleration Unit,  
WPI-ASHBi

## - Successful Supporting Records (from 2019)

KAKENHI: **Transformative Research A/B, Kiban S/A/C & Wakate**

Other grants including **JST-FOREST, AMED etc.**

## - Seminars: KAKENHI, DC1/2 Fellowships, and others

### KAKENHI @ASHBi

ASHBi  
RESEARCH ACCELERATION PROGRAM  
KAKENHI WRITING SEMINAR  
Telling your research story effectively

FRI AUG 05  
16:00 - 17:20  
ZOOM ONLINE

Speaker: **Makoto Shida**  
URA, Research Acceleration Unit  
WPI-ASHBi, Kyoto University

Topic: **Evaluation System & Effective Storytelling**

Speaker: **Daniel Packwood**  
R1 Janssen Associate Professor  
WPI-CeMS, Kyoto University

Topic: **Writing Tips for Early-stage Researchers**

**What Makes an Effective Grant Proposal?**  
A good proposal allows the reviewer to grasp the research story at a glance.  
This English seminar will walk you through the KAKENHI evaluation system and provide practical storytelling and writing tips for making an effective grant proposal. Most suitable for early-stage foreign researchers who are looking for KAKENHI Wakate and Kiban C categories.  
Sign up to find out how an effective story telling can help you write effective proposal!

Organized by Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (WPI-ASHBi)  
Contact: ashbi-acceleration@wpi-ashbi.ac.jp

### DC1/2 Fellowships @ASHBi

ASHBi  
RESEARCH ACCELERATION PROGRAM  
Writing Seminar on  
Doctoral Course Fellowship (DC1/DC2)  
Quick guide to the most popular funding for PhD students  
(Also eligible for foreigners!)

FRI, APR 8  
16:00 - 17:00  
ZOOM ONLINE  
Registration required

Speaker: **Makoto Shida**  
URA, Research Acceleration Unit  
WPI-ASHBi, Kyoto University

**Do you know the essence of making an effective proposal?**  
ASHBi DC1/DC2 Doctoral Course Fellowship is one of the most popular funding source for PhD students in Japan. But unfortunately, most information are only provided in Japanese.  
In this 1-hour English seminar, I will guide you through the basic overview and evaluation system of DC1/DC2, and share the essential storytelling skills for writing an effective proposal. If you are planning to apply this year, make sure to join us!

Organized by Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (WPI-ASHBi)  
Contact: ashbi-acceleration@wpi-ashbi.ac.jp

### Proposal Writing @Tohoku U

The PCoMS & RISME professional skills training online seminar on  
**English research proposal writing**  
February 18 (FRI), 2022 **Online virtual meeting**

13:30-15:30

Young researchers in Japan have a lot of chance getting research fund such as KAKENHI, JSPS Research Fellowship (DC1, DC2), and so on. However, many of non-Japanese young researchers do not have the chance of knowing details of the system of research fund, and experiences of other researchers who have got research funds. In this seminar, we offer you an opportunity of acquiring tips and ideas to make your research proposal more attractive.

**Main Target** young researchers: DC students, PDS, Assistant professors (Applicants in 2022 need to register in advance)

**Registration** Pre-registration required by 17:00 on Feb. 16 (free of charge) <http://pcoms.mri.tohoku.ac.jp/R03/PCoMS-EPW2022>

**Capacity: 100 persons** First-come-first-served basis when the capacity is exceeded

**Speakers and Titles of Talks**

"Knowing" Your Evaluation System and  
"Telling" Your Story Effectively  
-for JSPS KAKENHI and Research Fellowship (DC1/2) Applicants-  
**Makoto SHIDA**  
Research Coordinator, IAS, Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (WPI-ASHBi), Kyoto University

**Persuasive Writing for Early-career Kakenhi Proposals**  
**Theresa DAVEY**  
Associate Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, Tohoku University

**Tips for Writing Research Proposals in Japan**  
**Izabela Irena RZEZINICKA**  
Professor, Graduate School of Engineering and Science, Shibaura Institute of Technology

**Cohosted by PCoMS & RISME**  
Cospponsored by WPI-ASHBi \*RCMS, IMR, Tohoku Univ.  
Cooperated by \*TI-FRIS \*URA Center of Tohoku Univ.

Contact address:  
Office of Professional development Consortium for Computational Historical Sciences (PCoMS)  
Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University  
1-1-1, Katahira, Aoba-ku, Sendai, 980-8577 Japan

# Grant application is about **Convincing your research proposal!**

2 Important factors of proposal



**Today**

# What is KAKENHI?

JSPS's **KAKENHI** (*Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research*) is one of the most popular funding source for both Japanese/Foreign researchers in Japan.



FY2022 budget: **JPY 238B**

**37%** of govt. competitive funding

[https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/kyoukin\\_r3-4.pdf](https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/kyoukin_r3-4.pdf)

## Practical Guide of KAKENHI for Early-stage Researchers

### **1. Basic info and application process**

### **2. Evaluation System (WAKATE/Kiban C)**

### **3. Preparing an Effective Proposal**

## Practical Guide of KAKENHI for Early-stage Researchers

### 1. Basic info and application process

### 2. Evaluation System (WAKATE/Kiban C)

### 3. Preparing an Effective Proposal

# JSPS funding programs applicable to foreigners

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| PhD Students               | <b>DC1</b><br><i>for prospective PhD students</i>  |
|                            | <b>DC2</b><br><i>for enrolled PhD students</i>   |
| Postdocs                   | <b>PD</b><br><i>for "permanent resident holders" and Japanese postdoc</i>  |
|                            | <b>Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan (Standard)</b><br><i>for foreign postdocs intending to start research in Japan</i> |
| Postdocs & Faculty Members | <b>KAKENHI</b><br><i>(Kiban S/A/B/C, WAKATE, etc.)</i>   |

# “Kiban” are the basic categories for KAKENHI

**WAKATE/Kiban C is more accessible**  
for Early-stage researchers

| Category                        | Period    | Grant Size (Total JPY) |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| <b>Kiban S</b>                  | 5 years   | <b>50~200M</b>         |
| <b>Kiban A</b>                  | 3-5 years | <b>20~50M</b>          |
| <b>Kiban B</b>                  |           | <b>5~20M</b>           |
| <b>Kiban C</b>                  | 3-5 years | <b>~5M</b>             |
| <b>WAKATE</b><br>(Early Career) | 2-5 years |                        |

+ other special categories

KAKENHI web: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/grants01.html>

# If eligible, you have better chance with WAKATE

| Category       | Eligibility              | Success Rate       | Total Funding  |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Kiban C</b> | <i>All researchers</i>   | <i>Approx. 30%</i> | <i>~5M JPY</i> |
| <b>WAKATE</b>  | <b>~8 years from PhD</b> | <b>Approx. 40%</b> |                |

**JSPS Deadline: Wed, Oct 5 2022**  
for grant starting from Apr 2023

*\*Contact univ. admin for the **"Internal Deadline"** at your university!*

# You need to apply via the E-application System

To start, contact univ. admin for

- **internal deadline**
- **E-rad#\***

**\*E-rad#: your researcher ID**

**JSPS Electronic Application System**  
for Projects Funded by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science  
English > Japanese

### Accessing the Electronic Application System

When using the Kakenhi electronic application system (application system / grant application system), please click the banner bellow to log-in with your e-Rad ID and password.  
If you have changed your log-in ID and password on e-Rad, a period between 30 minutes to 1 hour shall be required before the updated log-in ID and password become effective for the Kakenhi electronic application system.  
After you change your log-in ID and password on e-Rad, please allow some time before trying the Kakenhi electronic application system log-in.  
Please note that the update could take longer depending on the system status.

**Researchers login**

## E-Application System

<https://www-shinsei.jps.go.jp/kaken/english/index.html>

Kakenhi (Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research) Electronic Application System Operation Manual for Researchers Version 2.6 (6.30MB) (updated: June 2022)

Note to users: When the e-Rad application system of each project approaches, please check the request status or application status to ensure the application has been submitted to JSPS.

The system restarts on 5:00 every day. Any information edited over the period cannot be saved. When using the system over the period, please perform Temporary Save before 5:00 and access again once the system is restarted.

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**E-application to funds**  
KAKENHI, JST grants etc.

**Same ID anywhere**  
Carry same number upon transfer

# Summary of KAKENHI (WAKATE/Kiban C)

## KAKENHI Overview

- Eligible to **both Japanese & Foreigners**
- Advisable to start from **WAKATE/Kiban C**
- Success rate is **30~40%**
- JSPS Deadline is **Oct 5** (*check internal deadline*)

## Application Process

- Application via **E-application** system
- Need to obtain **E-rad number**
- Seek **support from univ. admin**

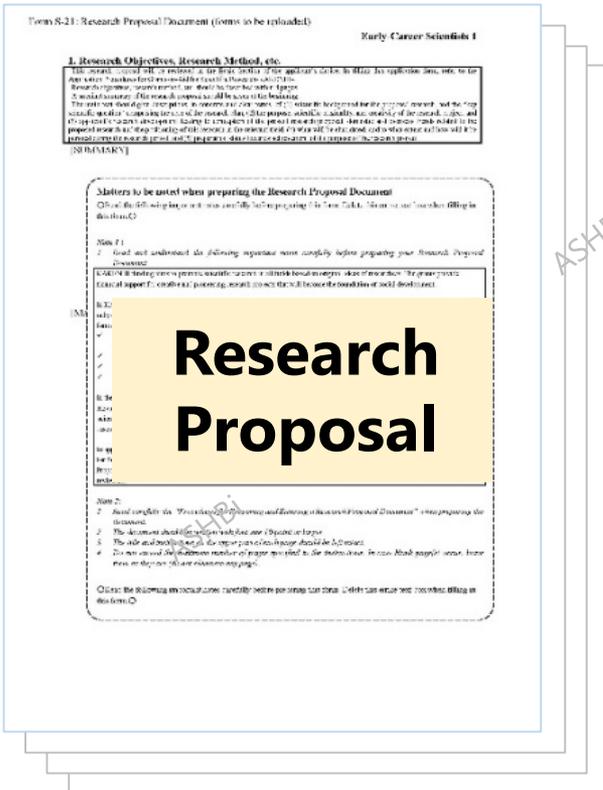
## Practical Guide of KAKENHI for Early-stage Researchers

1. Basic info and application process
2. Evaluation System (WAKATE/Kiban C)
3. Preparing an Effective Proposal

# WAKATE/Kiban C Application format\*

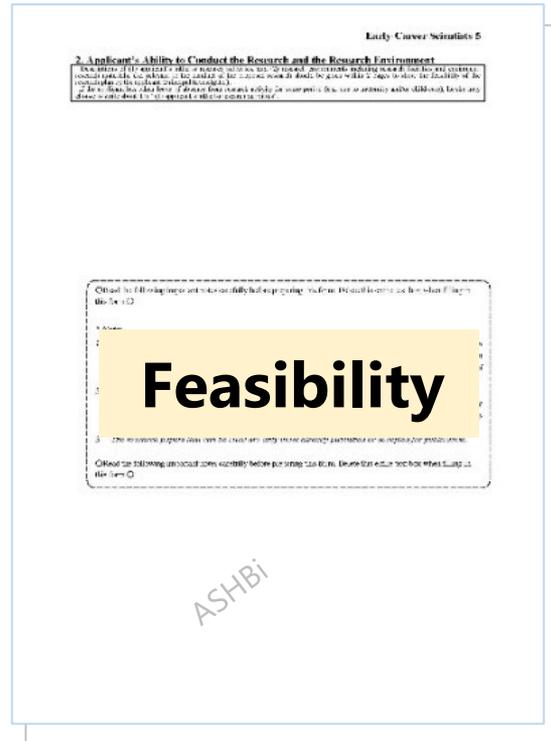
\*Sample format for WAKATE in FY2021 call

## 1. Research Objectives, Research Method, etc. (Including Summary)



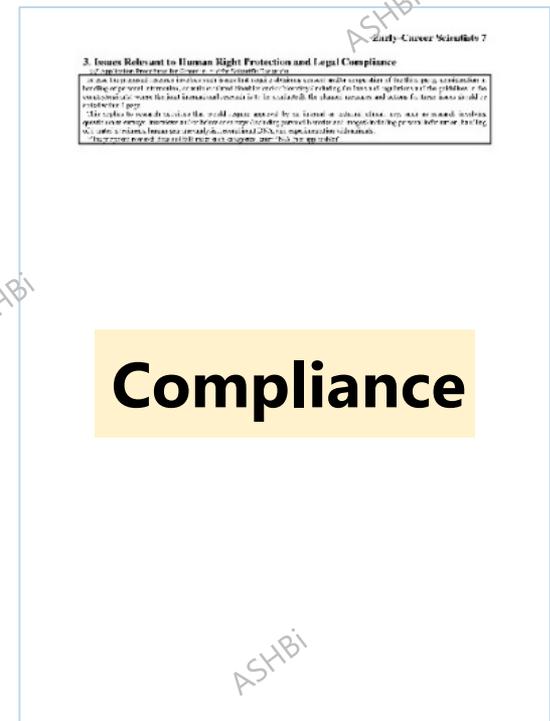
4 pages

## 2. Applicant's Ability to Conduct the Research and the Research Environment



2 pages

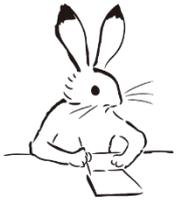
## 3. Issues Relevant to Human Right Protection and Legal Compliance



1 page

# What is the evaluation process for WAKATE/Kiban C?

Applicant



## Evaluation Process

**Selected**  
40%



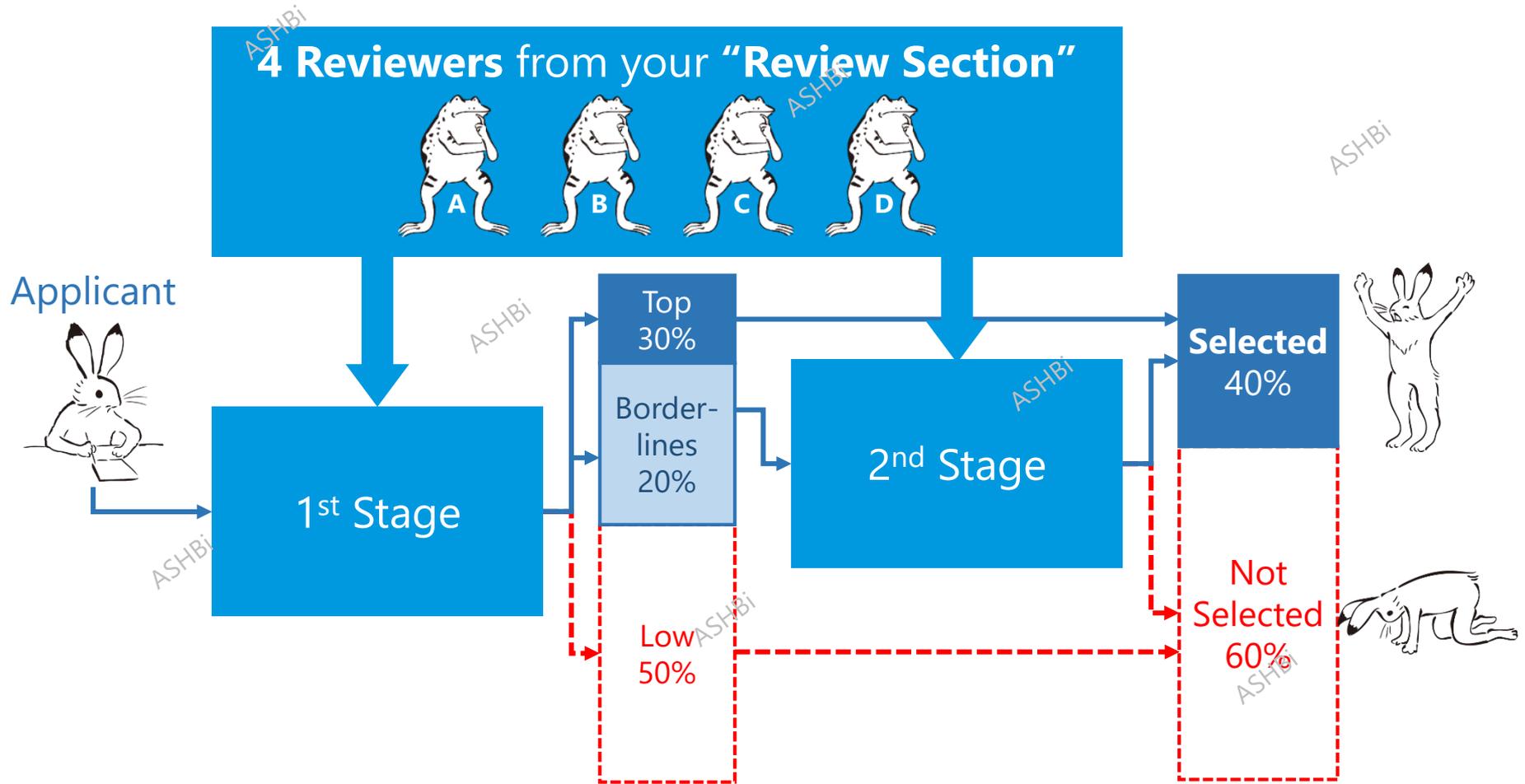
Not  
Selected  
60%



*Selection percentage for the case of WAKATE*

Rabbit Icons: <https://chojugiga.com/>

# WAKATE/Kiban C are evaluated by 4 reviewers in 2 stages

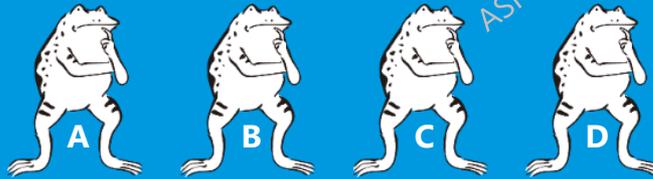


Selection percentage for the case of WAKATE

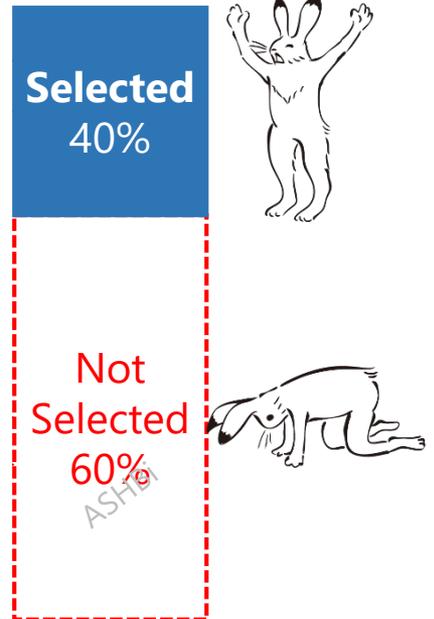
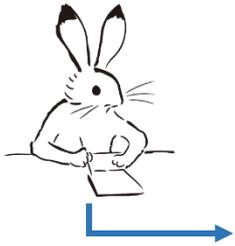
Rabbit & Frog Icons: <https://chojugiga.com/>

# Your reviewers are selected from the "Review Section"

## 4 Reviewers from your "Review Section"



Applicant



*Selection percentage for the case of WAKATE*

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (WPI-ASHBi)

Rabbit & Frog Icons: <https://chojugiga.com/>

# "Review Section" consists of 306 Basic Sections\*

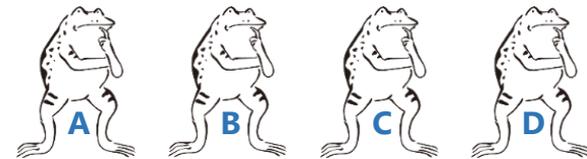
\*For WAKATE, Kiban B & C

| Broad Section G   |   |
|---|---|
| Medium-sized Section 43 : Biology at molecular to cellular levels, and related fields                     |   |
| Basic Section   |   |
| 43010   | Molecular biology-related   |
| 43020   | Structural biochemistry-related   |
| 43030   | Functional biochemistry-related   |
| 43040   | Biophysics-related  |
| 43050   | Genome biology-related  |
| 43060   | System genome science-related   |
| Medium-sized Section 44 : Biology at cellular to organismal levels, and related fields                    |   |
| Basic Section   |   |
| 44010   | Cell biology-related  |
| 44020   | Developmental Biology-related   |
| 44030   | Plant molecular biology and physiology-related                            |
| 44040   | Morphology and anatomical structure-related                               |
| 44050   | Animal physiological chemistry, physiology and behavioral biology-related |
| Medium-sized Section 45 : Biology at organismal to population levels and anthropology, and related fields |   |
| Basic Section   |   |
| 45010   | Genetics-related  |
| 45020   | Evolutionary biology-related  |
| 45030   | Biodiversity and systematics-related                                      |
| 45040   | Evolution and environment-related   |

## 44020 Developmental biology-related

Cell differentiation, Stem cells, Regeneration, Germ layer formation, Morphogenesis, Organogenesis, Fertilization, Germ cells, Developmental genetics, Evolution and development, etc.

Experts in Basic Section "44020"



Reviewers are experts but **may not be from your "specific" field**

[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/review\\_section\\_table\\_e.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/review_section_table_e.pdf)

# Past reviewer info may help you decide your "Basic Section"

## Broad Section G

Medium-sized Section 43: Biology at molecular to cellular levels, and related fields

| Basic Section |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 43010         | Molecular biology-related       |
| 43020         | Structural biochemistry-related |
| 43030         | Functional biochemistry-related |
| 43040         | Biophysics-related              |
| 43050         | Genome biology-related          |
| 43060         | System genome science-related   |

Medium-sized Section 44: Biology at cellular to organismal levels, and related fields

| Basic Section |   |
|---------------|---|
| 44010         | Cell biology-related  |
| 44020         | Developmental Biology-related   |
| 44030         | Plant molecular biology and physiology-related                            |
| 44040         | Morphology and anatomical structure-related                               |
| 44050         | Animal physiological chemistry, physiology and behavioral biology-related |

Medium-sized Section 45: Biology at organismal to population levels and anthropology, and related fields

| Basic Section |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 45010         | Genetics-related                     |
| 45020         | Evolutionary biology-related         |
| 45030         | Biodiversity and systematics-related |
| 45040         | Evolution and environment related    |

Ask your colleague to help check\* the **past reviewer information.**

### 審査第四部会第44020小委員会

FY2019

[発生生物学関連]

| 機関・部局・職       | 氏名               |
|---------------|------------------|
| 九州大学・医学研究院・教授 | ハヤシカツヒコ<br>林 克彦  |
|               | オオタケニマサ<br>太田 訓正 |

### 審査第四部会第44020小委員会

FY2018

[発生生物学関連]

| 機関・部局・職  | 氏名                 |
|--|--------------------|
| 九州大学・医学研究院・教授                                    | ハヤシカツヒコ<br>林 克彦    |
| 京都大学・大学院理学研究科・准教授                                | サトウユタカ<br>佐藤 ゆたか   |
| 大学共同利用機関法人自然科学研究機構(岡崎共通研究施設)・岡崎統合バイオサイエンスセンター 教授 | ヒガシジマンシイチ<br>東島 真一 |
| 熊本大学・大学院生命科学研究部・准教授                              | オオタケニマサ<br>太田 訓正   |

**\*Past reviewer information is provided ONLY in Japanese**

[https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/14\\_kouho/meibo.html](https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/14_kouho/meibo.html)

# 1<sup>st</sup> Stage: All applications are evaluated by "Overall Score"

**"Most"** of the applications are **decided in the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage**

Applicant



Average of  
4 reviewers'  
**"Overall Score"**

Top  
30%

Border-  
lines  
20%

Low  
50%

**Selected**



**Not Selected**



*Selection percentage for the case of WAKATE*

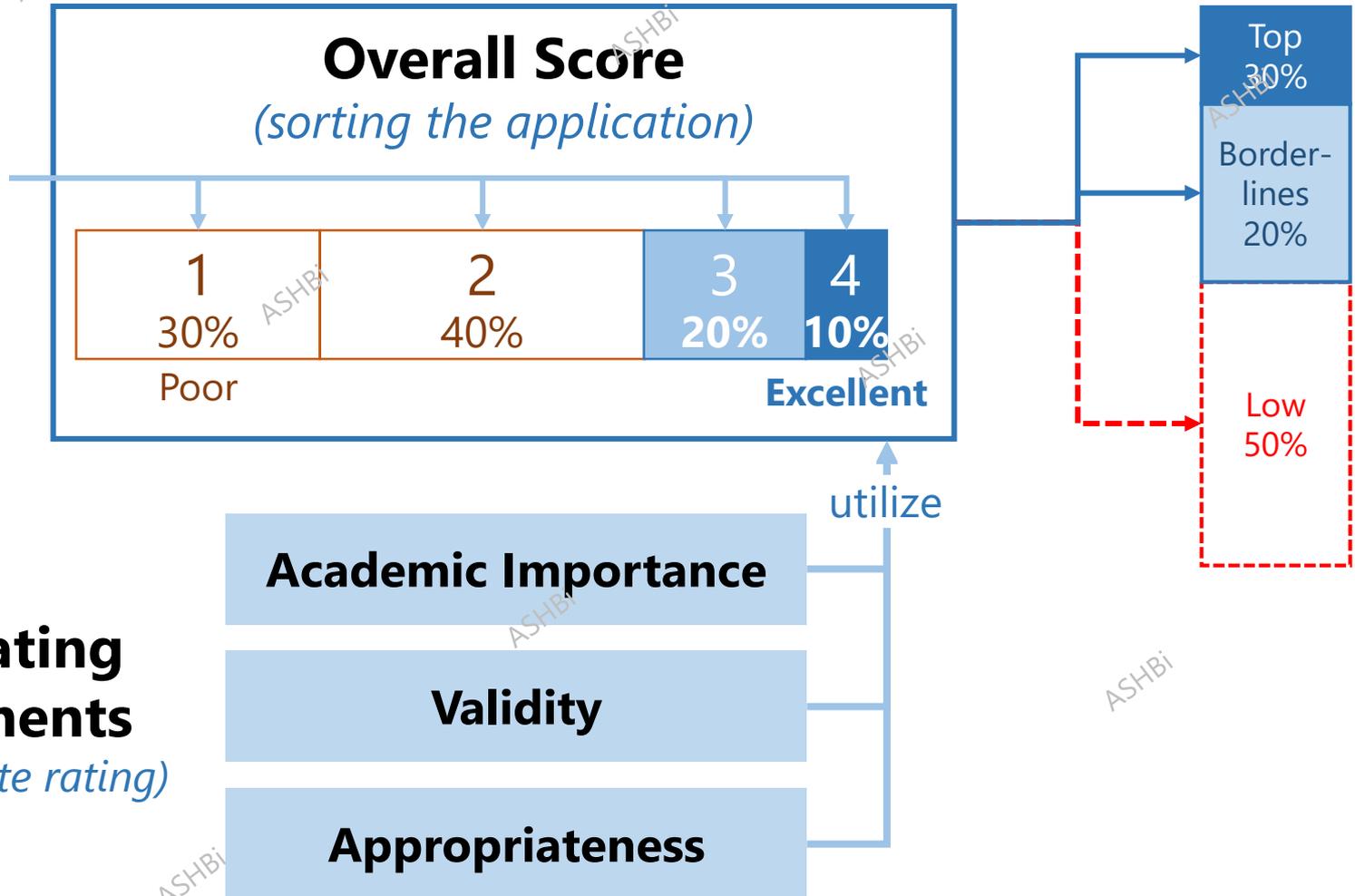
Rabbit & Frog Icons: <https://chojugiga.com/>

# Each reviewer provides Overall Score & 3 Rating Elements

Average of 4 Reviewers' **"Overall Score"** is used for selection

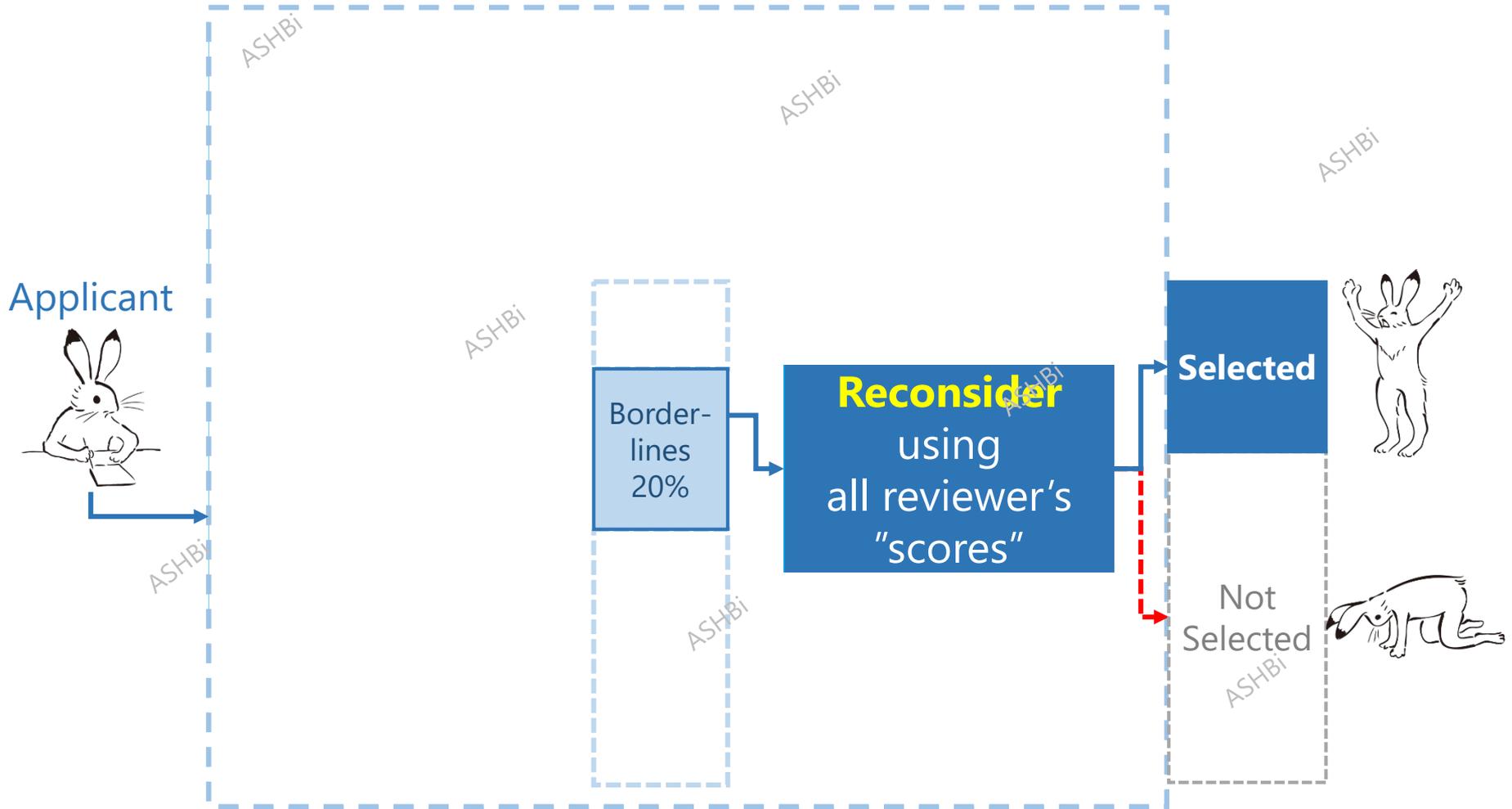


Applicant



# In 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage, only the "Border-lines" are re-evaluated

Remaining 20% will be evaluated here



# Summary of evaluation systems

Proposal

## 3 parts

- Research Proposal
- Feasibility
- Compliance

Make sure to prepare **easy-to-understand** proposal!

Reviewers

**306 Basic Sections** to choose from

**4 Reviewers** will evaluate

***Reviewers may not be experts of your field***

Evaluation

**2 stage** evaluation

***Most are decided in 1<sup>st</sup> stage (1 chance)***

**Overall Score + 3 Rating Elements**

- Academic Importance
- Validity
- Appropriateness

## Practical Guide of KAKENHI for Early-stage Researchers

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# What helps you make a Good Proposal?

## Effective Storytelling

helps the reviewer to empathize with your story



# Storytelling: What do we need in a research proposal?



Your point of view



**You need a  
reviewer's point  
of view!**

# You need to connect you & reviewer's point of view



Applicant



Reviewer

Your point of view

Research Plan

**Specific Problem**

**Strategy**  
(Unique/Solid)

**Expected Findings**

Reviewer's point of view

**Academic  
Importance**

**Validity**

**Appropriateness**

**You need to satisfy both components!**

# Academic Importance: Why should others listen to your story?

My Interpretation



**Large unsolved issue**  
(Empathizing theme)



**Critical Problem**

**Expected Findings**

**Large potential impact**  
(To science & society)

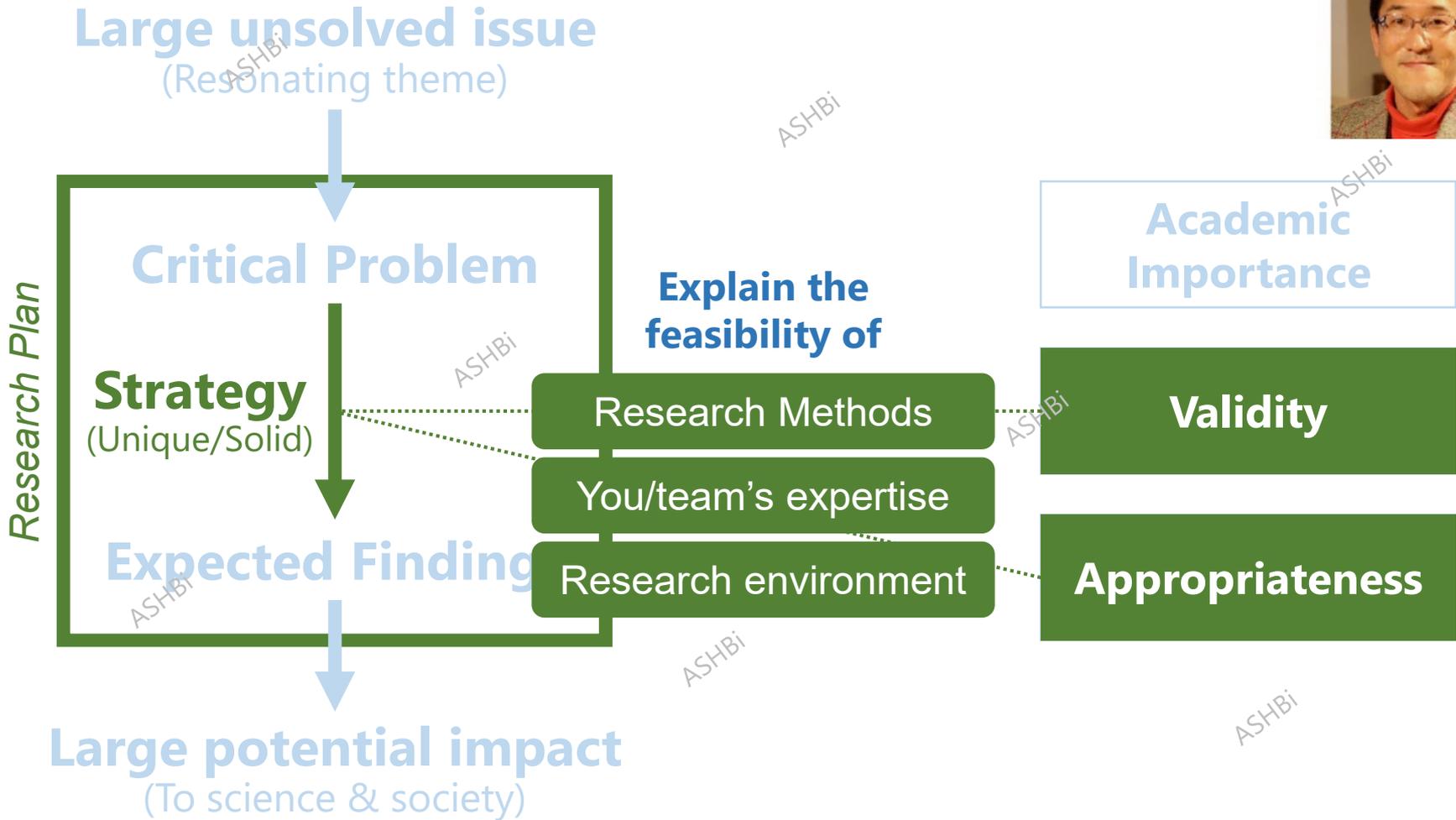
**Academic  
Importance**

**Validity**

**Appropriateness**

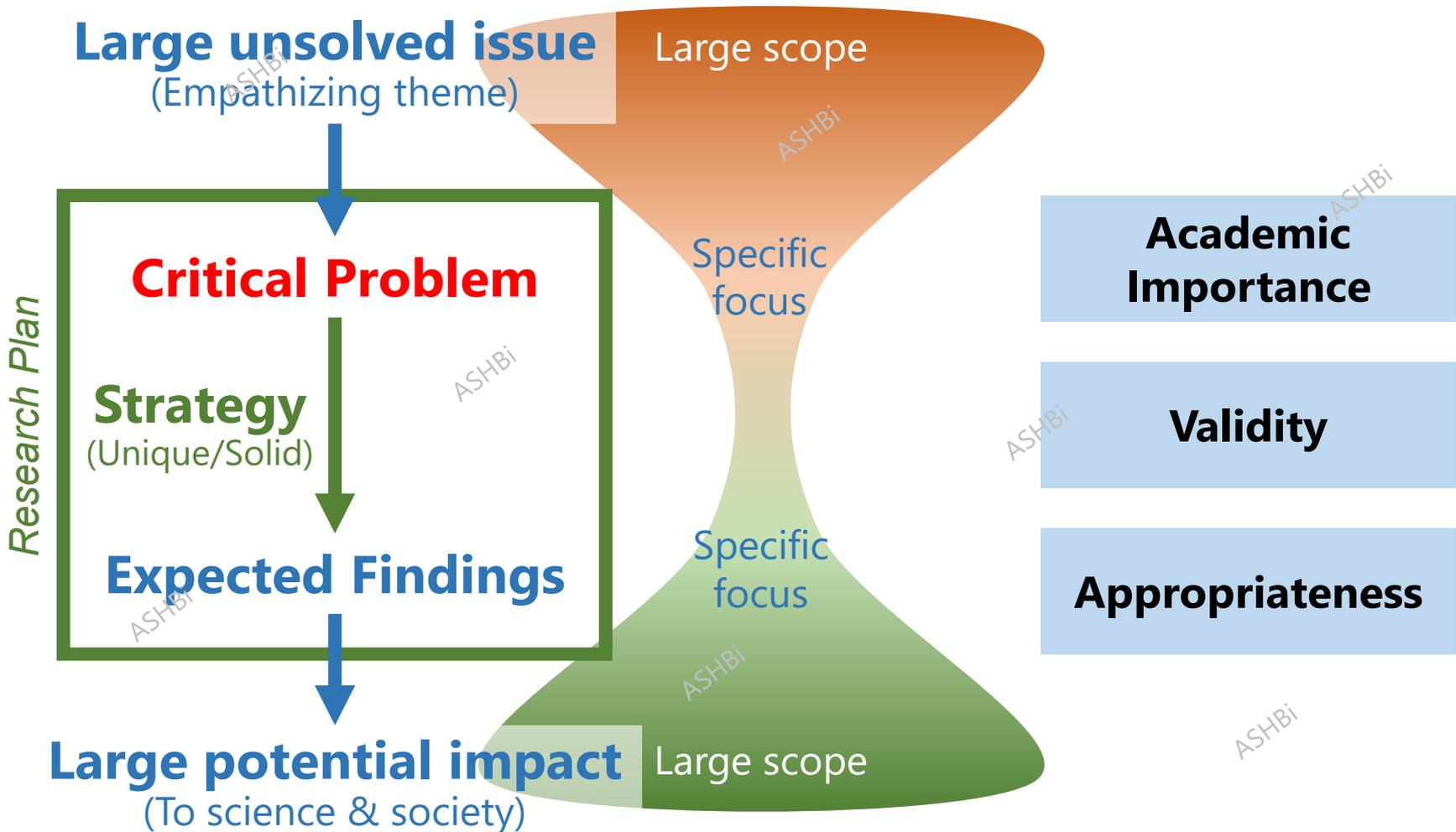
# Validity & Appropriateness: Why is your plan feasible?

My Interpretation



# Good storyline has the "Hourglass" structure

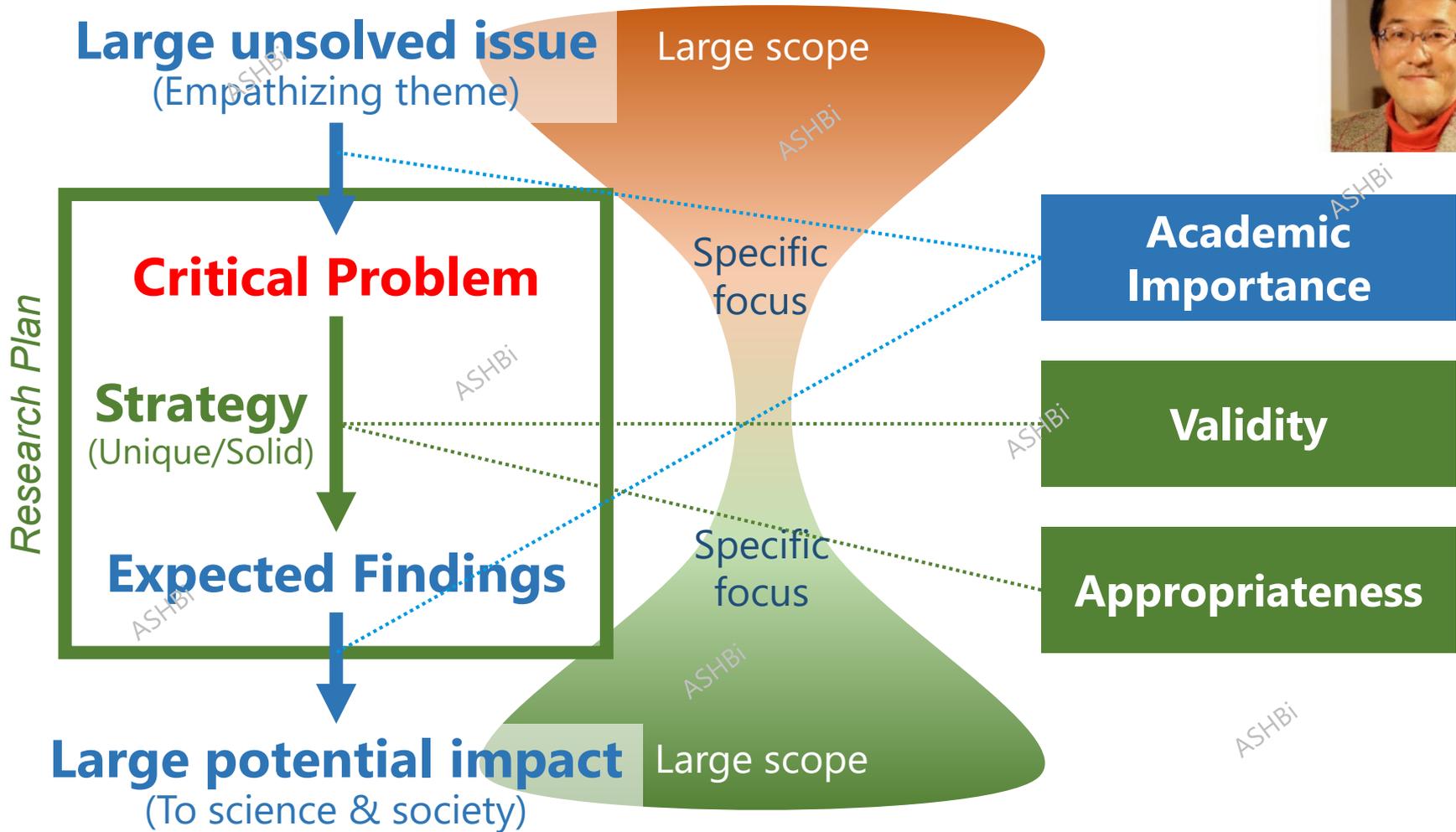
"Hourglass" like structure



Modified from Scanlan C, "The hourglass: serving the news, serving the reader" Poynter, 2003  
<https://www.poynter.org/reporting-editing/2003/the-hourglass-serving-the-news-serving-the-reader/>

# Make a convincing storyline by incorporating the 3 elements

My Interpretation



# Useful tips in preparing an effective proposal

Tip #1: **Grant Writing is different** from Academic Writing

Tip #2: **Organize your story** using an outline framework

Tip #3: Identify your **“Key Scientific Question”**

Tip #4: **Guide the eyes** with “Easy-to-understand” structure

Tip #5: **Visualize your plan** using “figures & diagrams”

Tip #6: **Obtain Third Person’s View** via Feedback

# Tip #1: Grant Writing is different from Paper Writing

What you need to convey is different

| Paper Writing   | vs   | Grant Writing   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Past oriented</b><br>Work that has been done               |  | <b>Future oriented</b><br>Work that should be done        |
| <b>Theme-centered</b><br>Theory and thesis                    |  | <b>Project-centered</b><br>Objectives and activities      |
| <b>Expository rhetoric</b><br><b>Explaining</b> to the reader |  | <b>Persuasive rhetoric</b><br><b>"Selling"</b> the reader |
| <b>Specialized terminology</b><br>"Insider jargon"            |  | <b>Accessible Language</b><br>Easily understood           |

Modified from Porter R, "Why Academics Have a Hard Time Writing Good Grant Proposals"  
The Journal of Research Administration, vol 38, 2, 2007

In Grant Writing, you need to **sell "your future plan"**

# Tip #2: Organize your story using an outline framework

## Sample of an Outline Framework



Modified from Ono E, "科研費研究計画調書のグラフィックデザイン"  
K-CONNEX Seminar, 2017

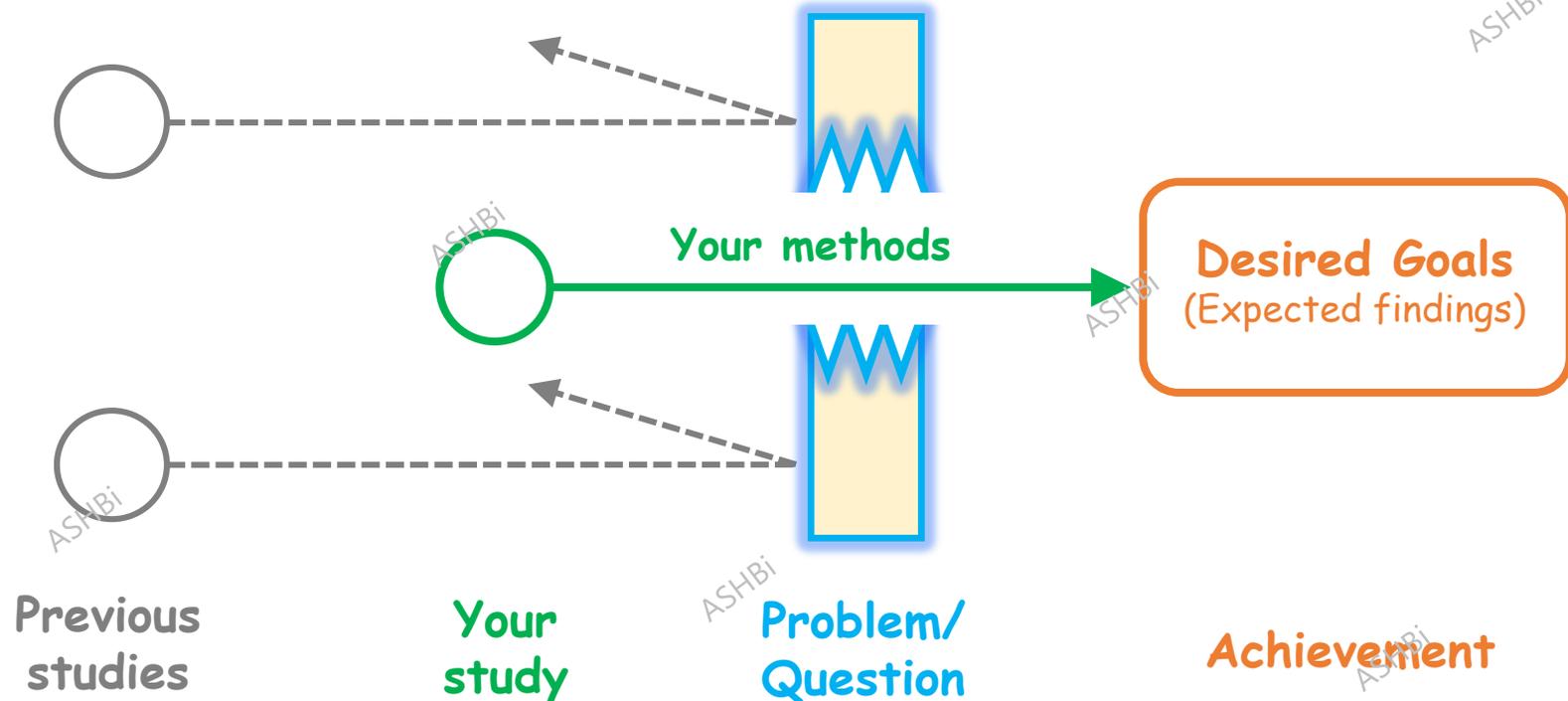
Check to see if you have **"every component"** in your story

# Tip #3: Identify your “Key Scientific Question”

KAKENHI requires “**Key Scientific Question**” in your application

A good question/problem distinguishes your proposal from others!

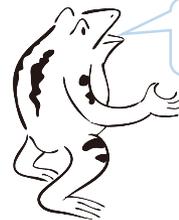
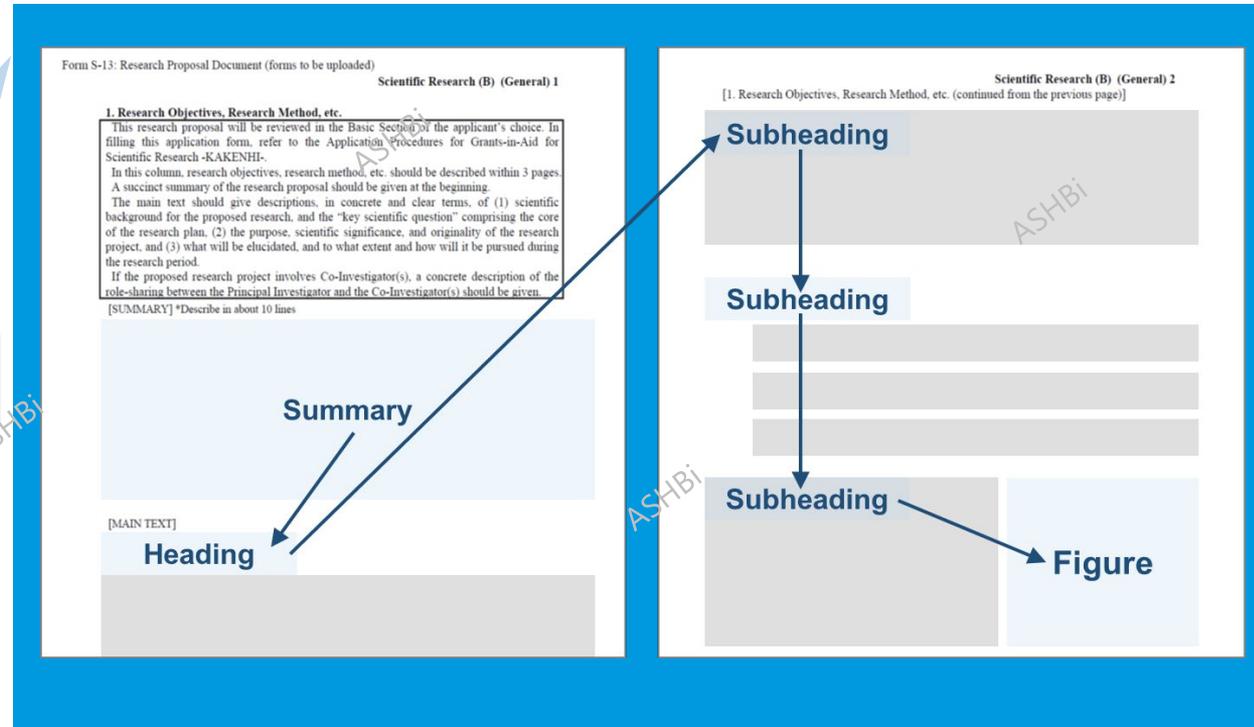
→ Enhancing the significance/originality of your study



Ogawa T, “My experience as a reviewer”  
KAKENHI Preparation in Advance, 2018

Make a question of which **your method is the “best way” to success** while showing the **“difficulty” of other methods**

# Tip #4: Guide the eyes with “Easy-to-understand” structure



Hey! It's easy to follow!

Modified from Ogawa T, “My experience as a reviewer”  
KAKENHI Preparation in Advance, 2018

Frog Icons: <https://chojugiga.com/>

Effective placement of **summary, headers and figures**  
will guide reviewers' eyes in **capturing your story**

# Tip #4: Guide the eyes with “Easy-to-understand” structure

Sample of an “Research Method” paragraph (*fictional story*)



So, What’s the **goal** and the **main message** here?

## **FEM Simulation of Mechanical Loads on the Lower Thighs**

It is known that correct seating posture can be analyzed by measuring the stresses of the lower thighs on the seat surface. Finite element method (FEM) is known to be a powerful tool for the stress analysis of complex structure. We will analyze the stress distribution of the lower thighs for different seat height using the original simulation program based on FEM. Then, ....

The simulation result will be used to determine the optimal seat for correct seating posture.

## **Optimization of seat height using FEM simulation**

To determine the optimal seat height, we will **simulate** the stress distribution of the lower thighs at different seat heights using an originally developed simulation program using finite element analysis methods (FEM). First, we will analyze the stress distribution of the lower thighs for different seat height to determine the relationship between the seat height and the stress. Second, we will....

Effective header clearly shows the “**key message**” of the content you will explain

# Tip #5: Visualize your plan using “figures & diagrams”

e.g. Project overview

## Overview and Key Question

Scientific background leading to the problem which needs to be solved

3 possible factors of the problem

Factor X

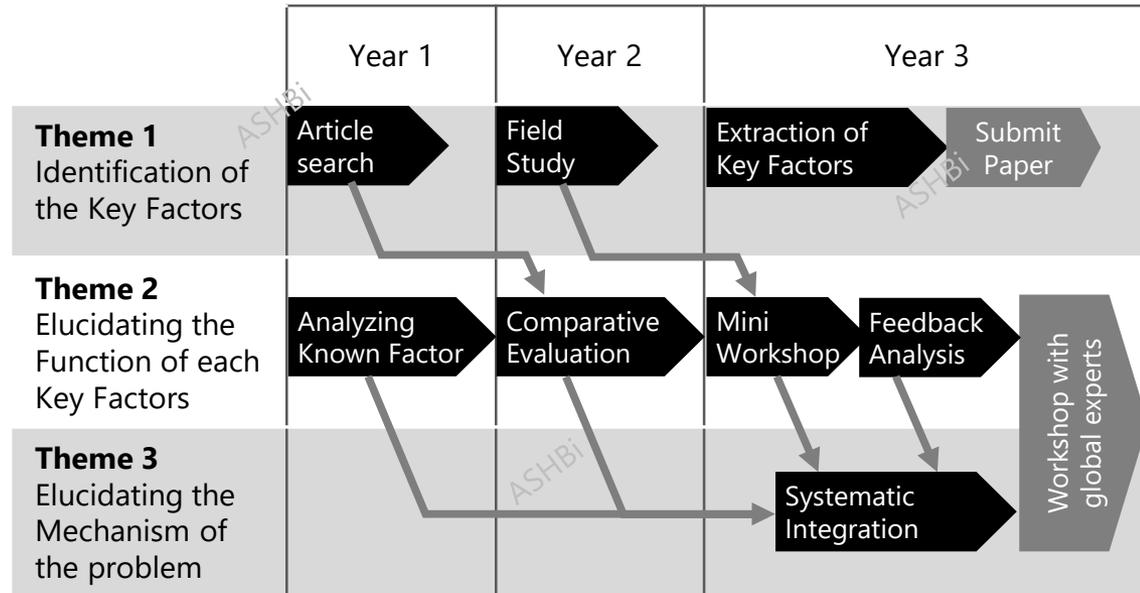
Factor Y

Factor Z

Critical Problem

**What is the key factor and the mechanism of this problem?**

e.g. Project timeline



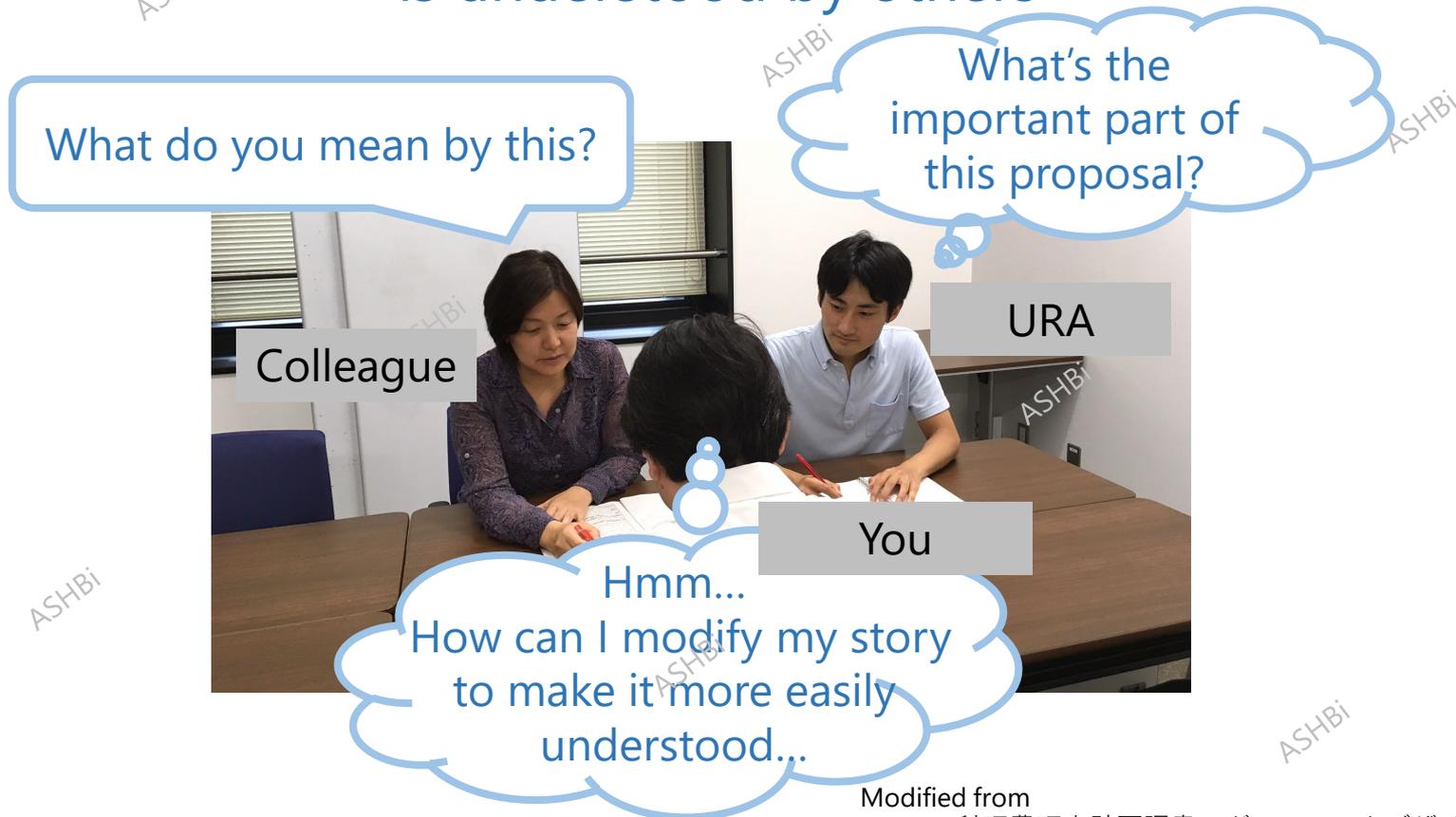
Modified from Ono E, “科研費研究計画調書のグラフィックデザイン”, 2019  
[https://ashbi.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/11/ASHBi\\_KAKENHI2019\\_02-Ono.pdf](https://ashbi.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/11/ASHBi_KAKENHI2019_02-Ono.pdf)

*Make sure to prepare them in grayscale!*

Visualizing your storyline will enable reviewers to **capture the story at a glance**

# Tip #6: Obtain Third Person's View via Feedback

Check to see how much of your proposal is understood by others



Modified from  
Ono E, "科研費研究計画調書のグラフィックデザイン",  
K-CONNEX Seminar, 2017

Have others check your document  
to **avoid your story becoming ego-centric**

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## IIMC, Kyoto University

Eiri Ono



## Part 2

# *Writing Tips for Early-stage Researchers*



**Daniel Packwood**

PI/Junior Associate Professor  
WPI-iCeMS

# Q&A Session



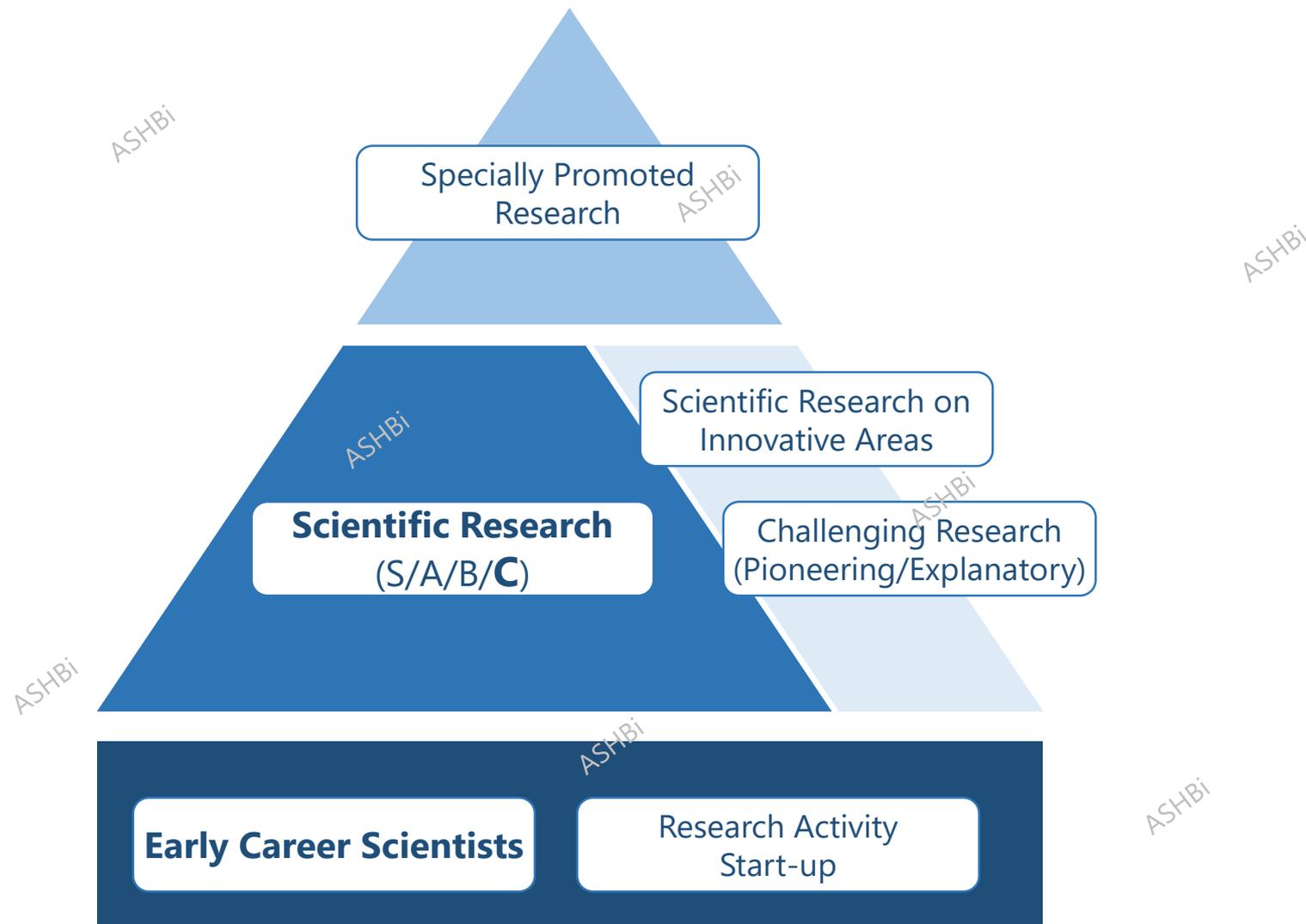
## *Useful information for **KAKENHI***

# Changes regarding KAKENHI application for FY2023

[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/major\\_changes\\_2023.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/major_changes_2023.pdf)

- 1. Deadline Schedule:** *basically same as FY2022*
- 2. Review Section:** *some sections are jointly evaluated for Kiban B*
- 3. Parallel Application:** *2<sup>nd</sup> WAKATE & Pioneering can be applied together*
- 4. Review Results:** *1<sup>st</sup> round dropouts are notified earlier (for Challenging Research)*
- 5. Research Start-ups:** *new researchers employed from Oct. will be eligible*
- 6. Research Integrity:** *need to ensure research transparency in e-Rad*

# KAKENHI Research Categories



KAKENHI Grants-in Aid for Scientific Research Pamphlet, JSPS  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/kakenhi\\_pamph\\_e.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/kakenhi_pamph_e.pdf)

# KAKENHI Past selection results (adopted numbers/section)

Selection results for each category & basic section can be found at KAKENHI website.  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/award\\_trends/3-1-2\\_r3e.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/award_trends/3-1-2_r3e.pdf)

## Funding Allocation Table by Review Section

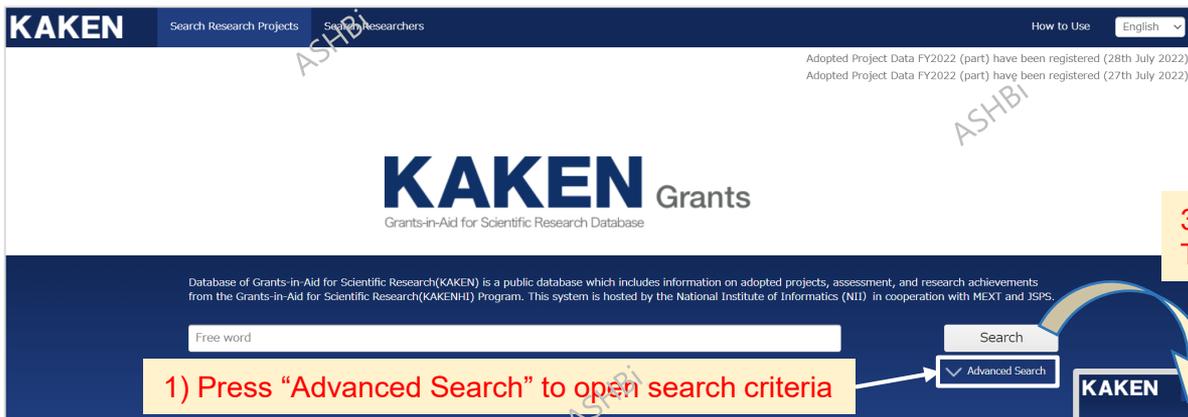
### Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists (New Proposal)

| Basic Section   | Number of Research Projects   |                            | Research Expenditure                                  |  |   |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|---|
|   | Number of Applications<br>(A) | Number of Adoptions<br>(B) | Direct Expense (Research Expenditure)<br>(Yen)<br>(C) | Average Amount Allocated per Project (Direct Expense) (Yen)<br>(C/B) | Maximum Amount Allocated per Project (Direct Expense) (Yen) |
| 01010 : Philosophy and ethics-related   | 42                            | 20                         | 14,800,000  | 740,000  | 1,200,000   |
| 01020 : Chinese philosophy, Indian philosophy and Buddhist philosophy-related | 21                            | 9                          | 7,100,000   | 788,889  | 1,200,000   |
| 01030 : Religious studies-related   | 16                            | 7                          | 6,300,000   | 900,000  | 1,100,000   |
| 01040 : History of thought-related  | 25                            | 11                         | 9,800,000   | 890,909  | 1,500,000   |
| 01050 : Aesthetics and art studies-related                                    | 28                            | 12                         | 11,600,000  | 966,667  | 1,400,000   |
| 01060 : History of arts-related   | 37                            | 16                         | 14,600,000  | 912,500  | 1,600,000   |
| 01070 : Theory of art practice-related  | 33                            | 14                         | 10,400,000  | 742,857  | 1,200,000   |
| 01080 : Sociology of science, history of science and technology-related       | 13                            | 5                          | 6,000,000   | 1,200,000  | 1,700,000   |
| 02010 : Japanese literature-related   | 60                            | 29                         | 21,900,000  | 755,172  | 1,300,000   |
| 02020 : Chinese literature-related  | 9                             | 3                          | 3,900,000   | 1,300,000  | 1,800,000   |
| 02030 : English literature and literature in the English language-related     | 33                            | 17                         | 11,800,000  | 694,118  | 1,300,000   |
| 02040 : European literature-related   | 19                            | 8                          | 5,300,000   | 662,500  | 800,000   |
| 02050 : Literature in general-related   | 11                            | 6                          | 4,600,000   | 766,667  | 1,400,000   |
| 02060 : Linguistics-related   | 79                            | 37                         | 33,000,000  | 891,892  | 2,100,000   |
| 02070 : Japanese linguistics-related  | 23                            | 11                         | 8,800,000   | 800,000  | 1,700,000   |
| 02080 : English linguistics-related   | 17                            | 9                          | 6,300,000   | 700,000  | 1,100,000   |
| 02090 : Japanese language education-related                                   | 37                            | 17                         | 13,900,000  | 817,647  | 1,700,000   |
| 02100 : Foreign language education-related                                    | 78                            | 36                         | 33,800,000  | 938,889  | 2,500,000   |
| 03010 : Historical studies in general-related                                 | 11                            | 4                          | 3,300,000   | 825,000  | 1,300,000   |
| 03020 : Japanese history-related  | 50                            | 24                         | 17,100,000  | 712,500  | 1,500,000   |
| 03030 : History of Asia and Africa-related                                    | 32                            | 15                         | 11,100,000  | 740,000  | 1,100,000   |
| 03040 : History of Europe and America-related                                 | 14                            | 6                          | 3,700,000   | 616,667  | 800,000   |
| 03050 : Archaeology-related   | 18                            | 7                          | 6,000,000   | 857,143  | 1,400,000   |
| 03060 : Cultural assets study-related   | 17                            | 7                          | 11,200,000  | 1,600,000  | 2,500,000   |
| 03070 : Museology-related   | 5                             | 2                          | 2,900,000   | 1,450,000  | 2,100,000   |
| 04010 : Geography-related   | 13                            | 5                          | 4,900,000   | 980,000  | 1,500,000   |
| 04020 : Human geography-related   | 22                            | 9                          | 7,500,000   | 833,333  | 1,500,000   |
| 04030 : Cultural anthropology and folklore-related                            | 37                            | 15                         | 14,000,000  | 933,333  | 2,600,000   |
| 05010 : Legal theory and history-related                                      | 8                             | 3                          | 2,200,000   | 733,333  | 1,100,000   |
| 05020 : Public law-related  | 25                            | 11                         | 8,500,000   | 772,727  | 1,200,000   |
| 05030 : International law-related   | 13                            | 6                          | 4,000,000   | 666,667  | 1,000,000   |
| 05040 : Social law-related  | 8                             | 4                          | 2,400,000   | 600,000  | 800,000   |
| 05050 : Criminal law-related  | 17                            | 9                          | 6,300,000   | 700,000  | 1,200,000   |

# KAKENHI Past selection results (adopted projects)

Adopted projects can be found at KAKEN database (use advanced search)

<https://kaken.nii.ac.jp/en/>



3) Press "Search" to check adopted projects  
Title, Investigator, Outline can be found

We have enhanced the search function of the KAKEN database to make it easier to search for information on International Joint Research projects  
<https://support.nii.ac.jp/en/news/kaken/20211227-0>

2) Select your category, review section, etc.

Research Project Title  Project/Area Number

**Project Type**  Research Project  Innovative Areas  Organizer  Wrapup  Planned  Publicity  
 International

**Research Category**  Find Research Category

**Allocation Type**  Single-year Grant  Multi-year Fund  Partial Multi-year Fund

**Review Section/Research Field**  Find Review Section/Research Field

**Research Institution**  Find Research Institution

**Project Period (FY)**  ~  FY of Project

Total Cost (Overall)

**Project Status**  Adopted  Granted  Ceased  Suspended  Completed  Declined  
 Discontinued

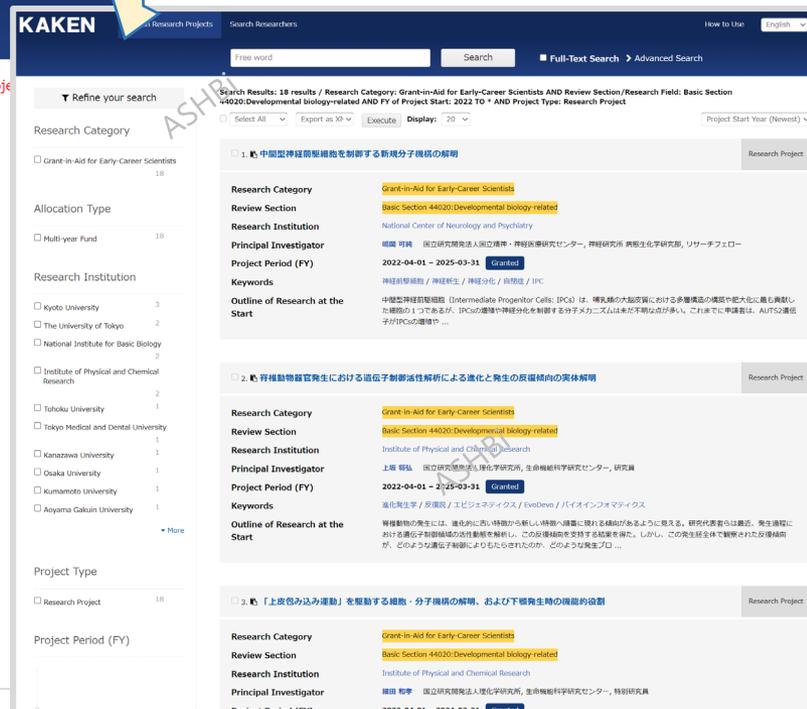
**Keywords**

**Research Abstract**

**Researcher**

**Name**

**Affiliation**



# Useful links for KAKENHI

- KAKENHI proposal documents, instructions, etc.  
<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/grants09.html>
- Restriction on Parallel Grant Application  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/table of restriction e.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/table%20of%20restriction%20e.pdf)
- KAKENHI Review Section Table  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/review section table e.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2023/review%20section%20table%20e.pdf)
- KAKENHI past reviewer list (in Japanese)  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/14\\_kouho/meibo.html](https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/14_kouho/meibo.html)
- KAKENHI Peer Review Process  
<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/grants03.html>
- KAKENHI Review Process & Assessment Criteria  
[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/2022/r4hyoutei03\\_en\\_general.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/2022/r4hyoutei03_en_general.pdf)

## *Application Format* *WAKATE/Kiban C* Instructions for each part

### 1. Research Objectives, Research Method, etc.

This research proposal will be reviewed in the Basic Section of the applicant's choice. In filling this application form, refer to the Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research-KAKENHI-.

Research objectives, research method, etc. should be described within 4 pages.

A succinct summary of the research proposal should be given at the beginning.

The main text should give descriptions, in concrete and clear terms, of (1) scientific background for the proposed research, and the "key scientific question" comprising the core of the research plan, (2) the purpose, scientific originality, and creativity of the research project, (3) the circumstances leading to conception of the present research proposal, domestic and overseas trends related to the proposed research and the positioning of this research in the relevant field, (4) what will be elucidated, and to what extent and how will it be pursued during the research period, and (5) preparation status towards achievement of the purpose of the research project.

[Keywords in the instructions]

#### 1. Scientific background & "Key Scientific Question"

#### 2. Purpose, scientific originality & creativity

#### 3. Circumstances leading to conception, domestic/overseas trends, positioning of this research

#### 4. What will be elucidated, to what extent and how it will be pursued

#### 5. Preparation status

### 1. Research Objectives

This research project is described in the Application Form. Research objectives are stated in the Application Form. A succinct summary of the research project is provided in the main text showing the “key scientific trends” related to the research and to what extent the purpose of the research is achieved.

#### Notes to observe when preparing the Research Proposal Document

\*Delete this entire text box when completing this form.

#### Additional Notes

##### Note 1 :

1. Read and understand the following important notes carefully before preparing your Research Proposal Document.

KAKENHI funding aims to promote scientific research in all fields based on original ideas of researchers. The grants provide financial support for creative and pioneering research projects that will become the foundation of social development.

In KAKENHI, research theme setting is at the applicant's discretion. As such, KAKENHI research proposals are evaluated based not only on their scientific significance, but also on their originality and creativity. Accordingly, in the Research Proposal Document forms for the “Scientific Research”, “Early-Career Scientists” and “Research Activity Start-up” categories, applicants are required to state:

- ✓ What kind of key scientific question(s) is set against the relevant scientific background (such as research trends and new developments)?
- ✓ What are the scientific originality and creativity of the proposal?
- ✓ What was the circumstances leading to the conception of the research idea?
- ✓ What are the research trends (domestic and overseas) and the positioning of this research in the relevant field?

In the review process, research proposals will be screened either by Comprehensive Review or Two-Stage Document Review. Reviewers strive to grasp the essence of the proposed research through exchange of opinions among them, evaluate such merits as scientific significance, originality and creativity, and comprehensively place their judgments taking account of the feasibility of the research plan and the applicant's ability to conduct research.

In applying for KAKENHI, applicants are advised to take note of the above, and to read the Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and the explanations of review criteria and the annotations in the application form in preparing their Research Proposal Documents, so that the scientific merits and other points in the research proposal will be appropriately conveyed to the reviewers.

##### Note 2:

1. Read the “Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Proposal Document” before preparing this form.
2. Complete the form using font size 10-point or larger.
3. The title and instructions on the upper part of each page should be left intact.
4. Do not exceed the maximum number of pages specified in the instructions. Therefore, if there are any blank page(s), leave them as they are (do not delete any page).

Application form, refer

proposed research, originality, and creativity domestic and overseas will be elucidated, research achievement of

### 2. Applicant's Ability to Conduct the Research and the Research Environment

Descriptions of (1) applicant's hitherto research activities, and (2) research environments including research facilities and equipment, research materials, etc. relevant to the conduct of the proposed research should be given within 2 pages to show the feasibility of the research plan by the applicant (Principal Investigator).

If the applicant has taken leave of absence from research activity for some period (e.g. due to maternity and/or child-care), he/she may choose to write about it in "(1) applicant's hitherto research activities".

\*Delete this entire text box when completing this form.

#### Additional Notes

**\* Note:**

1. *The description in this column is to explain the feasibility of the research plan. On citing research achievements (research papers, books, patents, invited talks, etc.) they should be given not as an exhaustive list but as supporting evidence to prove the applicant's ability to conduct the proposed research.*
2. *Sufficient information should be given so that the reviewers can identify the research achievements. In the case of a research paper, for example, the relevant bibliographic information, including the title of the paper, the author(s), the title and the volume of the journal, the publication year, and the pages of the article should be given.*
3. *The research papers that can be cited are only those already published or accepted for publication.*

[Keywords in the instructions]

#### 1. Applicant's hitherto research activities

#### 2. Research environments including research facilities and equipment, research materials

### 3. Issues Relevant to the Protection of Human Right and Compliance with Laws and Regulations

(cf. Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research)

If the proposed research involves such issues that require obtaining the consent and/or cooperation of third parties, consideration in handling of personal information, or actions related bioethics and/or biosafety, including the laws, regulations and the guidelines in the country/region(s) where the joint international research is to be conducted, describe the measures and actions planned to be taken in responding to these issues within 1 page.

This provision applies to research activities that would require approval by an internal or external ethical jury, such as research involving handling of personal information from questionnaire surveys, interviews and/or behavior surveys, including personal histories and images, handling of donated specimens, human genome analysis, recombinant DNA, and experimentation with animals.

If the activities of the proposed research do not fall under such categories, enter “N/A (not applicable)”.

[Keywords in the instructions]

1. Consent and/or cooperation of third parties
2. Consideration in handling of personal information
3. Actions related bioethics and/or biosafety, including the laws, regulations and the guidelines

## *Rating Elements* *WAKATE/Kiban B&C* Instructions for reviewers

# Questions you need to answer for each Rating Element

[https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/2022/r4hyoutei03\\_en\\_general.pdf](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/2022/r4hyoutei03_en_general.pdf)

## 1. Academic Importance of Research Project

- ✓ Is it an important research project to be promoted from the academic point of view?
- ✓ Is the “key scientific question” comprising the core of the research plan clear, and scientific significance, and originality recognized?
- ✓ Is it clear that the history leading to the conception of the research plan and domestic and overseas trends related to the proposed research and the positioning of this research in the relevant field?
- ✓ Can we expect an effect the wave to a wider academic, scientific, technological or society by conducting this research project?

## 2. Validity of Research Method

- ✓ Is the research method concrete and appropriate in order to achieve its research objective? Also, do the research expenditure ensure consistency with the research plan?
- ✓ Is the preparation status appropriate in order to achieve its research objective?

## 3. Appropriateness of Ability to Conduct Research and Research Environment

- ✓ Does it possess sufficient ability to conduct the research plan based on research activity over the past years?
- ✓ Have the research environment been arranged by the research facilities, equipment, research materials, etc. necessary to conduct the research plan? Parallel Application: *2<sup>nd</sup> WAKATE & Pioneering can apply together*

## *Additional information for Effective Storytelling*

# What's different in Paper Writing & Grant Writing?

## *Academic Writing versus Grant Writing: Contrasting Perspectives*

| <b>Academic Writing</b>  | <b>Grant Writing</b>   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Scholarly pursuit:</b><br/><i>Individual passion</i></p> <p><b>Past oriented:</b><br/><i>Work that has been done</i></p> <p><b>Theme-centered:</b><br/><i>Theory and thesis</i></p> <p><b>Expository rhetoric:</b><br/><i>Explaining to reader</i></p> <p><b>Impersonal tone:</b><br/><i>Objective, dispassionate</i></p> <p><b>Individualistic:</b><br/><i>Primarily a solo activity</i></p> <p><b>Few length constraints:</b><br/><i>Verbosity rewarded</i></p> <p><b>Specialized terminology:</b><br/><i>"Insider jargon"</i></p> | <p><b>Sponsor goals:</b><br/><i>Service attitude</i></p> <p><b>Future oriented:</b><br/><i>Work that should be done</i></p> <p><b>Project-centered:</b><br/><i>Objectives and activities</i></p> <p><b>Persuasive rhetoric:</b><br/><i>"Selling" the reader</i></p> <p><b>Personal tone:</b><br/><i>Conveys excitement</i></p> <p><b>Team-focused:</b><br/><i>Feedback needed</i></p> <p><b>Strict length constraints:</b><br/><i>Brevity rewarded</i></p> <p><b>Accessible language:</b><br/><i>Easily understood</i></p> |

Porter R, "Why Academics Have a Hard Time Writing Good Grant Proposals",  
The Journal of Research Administration, vol 38, 2, 2007

# Which questions are answered in a good abstract?

A good abstract will provide answers to reviewer's questions

- **Which problem are you going to solve?**
- **Why is this problem important?**
- **How will you do it?**
- **What do you plan to find/achieve?**
- **What potential impact can you provide?**



Modified from "Writing an abstract", Australian National University  
<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/academic-skills/research-writing/journal-article-writing/writing-an-abstract>