Lexical Bundles in Research Article Introductions: CARS Model Moves[1]
(Adapted from Cortes, V. (2013). *The purpose of this study is to*: Connecting lexical bundles and moves in research article introductions. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes, 12*, 33-43; and Lin, M-H., & Kuo, C-H. (2014).The rhetorical functions of lexical bundles in computer science research article introductions. *Asian ESP Journal, 10*(2), 244-275.

Lexical bundles are groups of 3 or more words that occur in a language (e.g., English) or variant of that language (e.g., academic English). The aim of this handout on lexical bundles is to provide a resource for students across the disciplines for whom academic English is a somewhat new language variety. Many of these bundles are discipline-specific; that is, some are typical to academic English in the sciences, others are typical to academic English in humanities fields, some are shared across disciplines, and so on.

The lexical bundles below are specific to research article introductions across disciplines. Therefore, this handout is most useful when used alongside the handout "CARS Model – Rhetorical Moves in Research Article Introductions in English." For example, in "Move 3: Occupying the Niche" (below), *the remainder of the paper is organized as follows* is a typical or standard bundle of words in academic English that occurs toward the end of the introduction in a published research article or student research paper that lets readers know what to expect and in what order to expect it.

Move 1: Establishing a Territory (i.e., known, established knowledge)

a great deal of
one of the major/most important
play an important role in the
a wide range/variety of
the significance/importance of
is defined as
it has been suggested/shown that
it was found that the
referred to as the
studies have shown that
an understanding of the
it is well known that
the development of the
to the development of
to the extent that
a great deal of
are more likely to
as a result of
at the same time
in a number of ways
in relation to the
in the absence/case/context/field/form/presence of
on the other hand
the degree to which
the effects/nature/result of the

in a number of studies
in the development of
the impact of the
a wide variety/range of
are more likely to
as a function/result of
for the first time
have been shown to be
in addition to/related to the
on the basis of the

Move 2: Establishing a Niche (i.e., lack of knowledge; research deficit)

however, to date scant research/few studies
little is known about the
it is necessary to
it should be noted that
the effect of the
the degree to which
in the context of
it is difficult to
the relationship between the
there is a need to
there are a number of
with respect to the
a better understanding of
is known about the
there is a need to
there is a gap in/lack of
the problem/validity of

Move 3: Occupying the Niche (i.e., contribution to knowledge)

in the present study
the aim/objective/purpose of this paper/study was/is to
in this paper we show that
to determine the effects of
an analysis of the
in the context of the
the remainder of the paper is organized as follows
in this paper, we present/propose/focus on
in this/next/previous section
the research question/s
the hypothesis/es is/was that

[1] The term "move" refers to a segment of text (e.g., background context; literature review; research question, problem, or hypothesis; and so on) with a particular purpose or function.