



Research Writing

Effective Word Usage in Scientific Writing

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A sentence should contain **no unnecessary words**. In scientific manuscripts, **precise writing** is especially important because of the **emphasis on conveying quantitative information efficiently**.

In reporting and recording research, try to be as **accurate and precise** in describing as in conducting the research.

Following is a list of words and expressions that are useless or incorrect in scientific writing, with suggested alternatives.

This is not a complete list but contains some of the most **troublesome words most frequently found in scientific manuscripts**.

Don't use

based on the fact that

for the purpose of

fact

prove

plays an important role

decreased number of

time period

longer time period

brown in color

round in shape

Better

because

for / to

evidence

support

is important because

fewer

time

longer

brown

round

Don't use

a number of

has been shown to be

by means of

it is possible that

in order to

during the course of

a majority of

a great number of times

in other words

Better

some

is

by

may

to

during

most

often

thus / hence / therefore

Don't use

despite the fact that

first of all

it is interesting to note that

it may seem reasonable to suppose that

Better

although

first

*eliminate**eliminate*

To ensure accuracy and preciseness in your writing:

- Use an English spelling checker
- Make sure you use words according to the precise meaning understood by the average person.
- Ideally, check whether every word could be deleted or replaced by a better one.



Thank you...