

寫作常見問題

連興隆

2005/5/5

- Use the active voice when it is less wordy and more direct than the passive.
Poor The fact that such processes are under strict stereoelectronic control is demonstrated by our work in this area.
Better Our work in this area demonstrates that such processes are under strict stereoelectronic control.

注意：一般在做客觀的描述時仍以被動為主，例如：

Such processes that are under strict stereoelectronic control has been demonstrated in this study.

- Use first person when it helps to keep your meaning clear and express a purpose or a decision.
Jones reported XYZ, but I (or we) found....
I (or we) present here a detailed study....
My (or our) recent work demonstrated...
To determine the effects of structure on photophysics, I (or we)....
- Use the proper subordinating conjunctions. “While” and “since” have strong connotations of time. Do not use them when you mean “although”, “because”, or “whereas”.
Poor Since solvent reorganization is a potential contributor, the selection of data is very important.
Better Because solvent reorganization is a potential contributor, the selection of data is very important.
<**Since** the ability of iron for groundwater remediation has been rediscovered by Gillham, the use of iron to treat a various contaminants has shown great success.>
Poor While the reactions of the anion were solvent-dependent, the corresponding reactions of the substituted derivatives were not.
Better Although the reactions of the anion were solvent-dependent, the corresponding reactions of the substituted derivatives were not.

- Use “respectively” to relate two or more sequences in the same sentence.
The excitation and emission were measured at 360 and 440 nm, respectively.
- Use the more accurate terms “greater than” or “more than” rather than the imprecise “over” or “in excess of”.
greater than 50%, *not* in excess of 50%
- Use “fewer” to refer to number; use “less” to refer to quantity.
fewer than 10 samples, less time, less product, less work

However, use “less” with number and unit of measure combinations because they are regarded as singular.

less than 5 mg; less than 3 days

- Comparisons
 - Unlike,
 - In contrast to.....,
 - Compare to ..., (相似的比較)
 - Compare with..., (相反的比較)
 - than....
 - ”different from”, “similar to”, “identical to” (介係詞不拆開)
- Five grams of NaCl was added to the solution.
- Dynamics, mechanics, kinetics, physics, mathematics, thermodynamics → 單數名詞