

Questions for Panel Discussion

Excerpt 1

1. Do you have trouble getting started? Which type of non-starting do you belong to, unintentional non-starting or intentional non-starting? What is your specific method to encourage yourself to start to write?
2. Have you ever designed any commitment device? Could you share with your partners one of them which proves to be effective?

Excerpt 2

1. According to the author, a scientific paper also has a “plot” and “characters” as a story does. Could you explain this metaphor?
2. According to the author, what tools can we use to find and plan our story when writing a scientific paper? Among them, which one do you want to try most? Why?
3. Why should we sell our story and how can we do that?

Excerpt 3

1. What does the hourglass shape illustrate?
Is there such a pattern in the narrative of academic writing in your field?
2. What are the 3 components of a typical Introduction?
Do you write this part in the same way?

Excerpt 4

1. What is the primary purpose of the Methods Section?
To achieve this purpose, how do we decide whether to include or omit a given detail?
2. Give readers the most information “in the shortest time with the least ink in the smallest space”.
What is this principle for?
Do scholars in your field follow this principle in writing this part?
3. How do you understand the following sentence?
“Figures and tables should both stand alone and—paradoxically—be seamlessly integrated with the text”.

Excerpt 5

1. What is the primary function of the Discussion Section? How to write it effectively?
2. Is a separate conclusion part necessary in the Conclusion Section?
What is the opinion of Professor Heard? What is the convention in your field?
3. How many citations do we need to use in an essay?
What is the core principle for this, according to Professor Heard?
On average, how many citations are there in a typical essay in your field?

Excerpt 6

1. What is a “power position”?
Where are the power positions in a sentence?

Where are they in a paragraph?

2. Contrary to what we have been told, Professor Heard suggests that we should use active voice as much as possible in scientific writing.

Why?

What is the convention in your field?

3. According to Professor Heard, it is advisable to design sentence structure to work with readers' expectations and cognitive biases.

What does it mean?

How to design sentence structure in this way?

Explain and illustrate.

Excerpt 7

1. What does "Word Choice" in writing refer to?

Why is "Word Choice" important in Writing?

What are the most common problems concerning word choice?

2. What are the 3 major reasons for brevity?

How to achieve conciseness when writing a sentence?

Excerpt 8

1. What do you usually do after completing your manuscript?

2. What kind of editorial decisions have you ever received?

How did you respond to it/ them?