

CHECKLIST

Linker Words & Phrases

Tense & Voice

Run-on & Others

Overuse of Weak &
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versus
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Linking Words & Phrases

Linker words and phrases (to avoid)	Linker words and phrases verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
Actually,...	mid-verb position/ delete?	Actually , formaldehyde is present in all vertebrate cells.	Formaldehyde is actually present in all vertebrate cells.
All in all	In summary/In conclusion	All in all , our analysis shows that our system is asymmetrical.	In conclusion , our analysis shows that our system behaves in an asymmetrical manner.
And	In addition/Furthermore/ delete?	Though the unemployment levels remained high. And the illiteracy levels also.	Even though the unemployment levels remained high. In addition , the illiteracy levels also remained at high levels.
As we all know	It is well established that.../delete?	As we all know , the moon moves around the earth.	It is well established that the moon rotates around the earth.
Because	As	Because they exhibit high temporal resolution, two typical ERP components have been frequently analyzed.	As they exhibit high temporal resolution, two typical ERP components have been frequently analyzed.

Linking words and phrases forms (to avoid)	Linking words and phrases verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
Besides	In addition/Furthermore	The unemployment levels remained high. Besides , the illiteracy levels were also high.	The unemployment levels remained high. In addition , the illiteracy levels also remained at high level.
But	However	The unemployment levels remained high. In addition, the illiteracy levels were also high. But no changes in income distribution were observed during the time of this study.	The unemployment levels remained high. In addition, the illiteracy levels also remained at high level. However , no changes in income distribution were observed during the time of this study.
Conclusively	In conclusion	This investigation indicates that... conclusively .	In conclusion , this paper indicates that...
In a nutshell	In summary/In brief/Briefly	In a nutshell , we performed this method using X, Y, and Z.	Briefly , we performed this method using X, Y, and Z.
In a word	In summary? In conclusion?	In a word , our investigation clearly demonstrated that...	In summary , our investigation clearly demonstrated that...
In fact	delete?	In fact , we already have the technology to do so.	We already possess the technology to perform XYZ.

Linking words and phrases forms (to avoid)	Linking words and phrases verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
In my opinion	delete?	This definition is simple and describes, in my opinion , the essence of the process.	This definition is simple, and describes the essence of the process.
In the end	Lastly Finally	In the end , the purified virus strains were combined to create the vaccine, blended with a carrier fluid, and last but not least, dispensed into vials.	Lastly/Finally , the purified virus strains were combined to create the vaccine, blended with a carrier fluid and finally dispensed into vials.
Last but not least	Lastly/Finally	In the end, the purified virus strains were combined to create the vaccine, blended with a carrier fluid, and last but not least , dispensed into vials.	Lastly, the purified virus strains were combined to create the vaccine, blended with a carrier fluid and finally dispensed into vials.
Meanwhile	Simultaneously? In addition?	Introduction of Highland rice can bring a dramatic improvement to farmers' food security. Meanwhile , land use intensification could lead to an improvement in access to new markets. Solution X was heated up. Meanwhile , Solution Y was mixed with agent Z.	Introduction of Highland rice can bring a dramatic improvement to farmers' food security. In addition, (furthermore/ in contrast) intensification in land use might result in improved access to new markets. Solution X was heated up. Simultaneously , Solution Y was mixed with agent Z.

Linking words and phrases forms (to avoid)	Linking words and phrases verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
Nowadays	At present/Currently	<p>Nowadays it's acceptable for women to be ambitious.</p> <p>Nowadays, for every person there are 3 mobile phones.</p>	<p>At present, it is acceptable for women to be ambitious.</p> <p>Currently, every person possesses an average of 3 mobile phones.</p>
On the contrast	In contrast? On the contrary?	Object A is not black, on the contrast , object A is white.	Object A is not black, on the contrary , object A is white.
So	As a result/As a consequence/Therefore	The magma flows into the pores of the rocks; so the rocks rupture.	The magma flows into the pores of the rocks; as a result , the rocks rupture.
That is	In other words	That is the baseline, which selects one version of each file in the component	The baseline, in other words , selects one version of each file in the component
The first thing	First/Firstly	The first thing , the virus strains most likely to cause disease were identified and three were selected for vaccine development.	First , the virus strains most likely to cause disease were identified and three were selected for vaccine development.
There is/are/were	delete and restructure sentence	There are some materials of inorganic origin that have been shown...	Certain inorganic materials have shown...

To sum up	In summary	To sum up , neither approach is the best for all applications.	In summary , neither approach is the most suitable for all applications.
What's more	In addition	The unemployment levels remained at high levels. What' more , the illiteracy levels were also high.	The unemployment levels remained at high levels. In addition , the illiteracy levels were also high.

Tense

一. 前言 Introduction

1. 使用一般现在时叙述：

- [1] 你进行研究的目的；
- [2] 该主题中已经为人熟知的文献；
- [3] 普遍已知且不太可能改变的事实；（案例：The Earth **revolves** around the sun.）
- [4] 过去研究中你相信是对的的结果，而且跟你要报告的研究相关。

2. 使用一般过去时叙述：

- [1] 过去人们所认为时真的但已经被推翻的事实。（案例：Bats **were thought** to be blind.）
- [2] 先前研究中使用的方法
- [3] 描述他人的研究工作。



二. 文献综述 Literature review

使用**一般过去时**谈论主题中已有的研究，但有时候你可能需要混用时态。

- [1] 使用**过去时**，当聚焦在研究本身或研究的作者上时；
- [2] 使用**现在时**，分享你个人对有问题对研究的观点；
- [3] 使用**现在完成时**，引用最近刚完成的既有研究，（案例：Recent studies *have shown* that...）；或将领域内过去的研究普遍化（案例：Several researchers *have studied* these stimuli ...）。

三. 材料和方法 Method

- [1] 使用**一般过去时**来描述你的行动，例如你做了什么，你怎么做的，因为这些行动在你写作的时候都已经完成了；
- [2] 只在必要时使用**过去完成时**，叙述比较早期阶段的实验程序。（案例：Subjects who *had been* assigned to the control group were given a placebo instead of Drug A）
- [3] 一般过去时一般和被动语态同时使用，描述实验进程。

四. 结果与发现 Results

- [1] 使用**过去时**来叙述在写作当下已经完成的实验；
- [2] 使用**现在时**来参照你用来呈现结果的图表；（案例：Fig. 3 *shows* that...）
- [3] 也可以将**现在时**用在指称整篇论文时；（案例：Section 4.1 *discusses*...）
- [4] 使用**现在时**，描述结果评估的总结。

五. 结论与讨论 Conclusion and Discussion

- [1] 使用过去时还是现在时，要考虑描述的内容；
- [2] 使用**过去时**总结研究发现；
- [3] 使用**现在时**来阐释研究结果，讨论发现的重要性，或是呈现你的结论；
- [4] 使用**未来时**来建议未来的研究，或是指出根据你论文中的结果，未来可以采取的措施或行动。

Voice

一. 前言 Introduction

[1] 一般使用**主动语态**。

案例 1：Kipf et al.(2017) propose the Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs) to define convolutions on the non-grid structures.

二. 材料和方法 Method

[1] 一般使用**被动语态**描述实验进程。案例：Solution B *was heated* for 30 mins.

三. 结论与讨论 Conclusion and Discussion

[1] 一般使用主动语态进行讨论。案例：In conclusion, we *conclude* that XYZ represents a simple biomarker for RA diagnosis.

四. 其他

[1] 也可以混用时态和语态。案例：The 2004 Surgeon General's Report, The Health Consequence of Smoking, *concluded* that active smoking during pregnancy *is causally linked* to premature rupture of membranes, ..., and low birth weight.

Informal versus Formal Expressions

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to end sth	abolish	The end of law is not to end , but to preserve and enlarge freedom.	The end of law is not abolish , but to preserve and enlarge freedom.
to get sth done	accomplish	This analysis did not get us any new results.	This analysis did not accomplish any new results.
to reach sth	achieve	It is possible to reach the goal of...	It is possible to achieve the goal of...
to cause sth to start	activate	It uses a flashlight-like device to cause the photo cells to start on the television to change channels.	It uses a flashlight-like device to activate photo cells on the television to alter channels.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to change sth (to suit sth else)	adapt	Cyber threats change on a daily basis, and security programs have to change themselves to counter them.	Cyber threats change on a daily basis, and security programs have to adapt to counter them.
to deal with sth	address	This simple transition would go a long way to deal with many of the problems described here.	This simple transition would go a long way to address many of the problems described here.
to tackle	address	This simple transition would go a long way to tackle many of the problems described here.	This simple transition would go a long way to address many of the problems described here.
to start to use	adopt	Citizens start to use social networks to drive political understanding and engagement, and to re-energize citizenship.	Citizens adopt social networks to drive political understanding and engagement, and to re-energize citizenship.
to bring forward, make better, enrich	advance	Too much protein in the diet may bring forward the ageing process.	Too much protein in the diet may advance the ageing process.
	affect	Music makes an individual to concentrate better .	Music affects an individual's ability to concentrate.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to make worse	aggravate	Military action may only make the current situation worse.	Military action may only aggravate the current situation.
look into sth	analyze	The samples were looked at using a scanning electron microscope.	The samples were analyzed using a scanning electron microscope.
to make known sth	announce	Australia's largest listed companies are expected to make known the huge interim earnings this week.	Australia's largest listed companies are expected to announce their large interim earnings this week.
to look like	appear	It looked like as if the leadership was going to take a more aggressive stance.	It appeared as if the leadership was going to take a more aggressive stance.
to get somewhere	arrive	Males of migratory birds tend to get to the breeding grounds firstly.	Males of migratory birds tend to arrive first on breeding ground.
to have a look	assess	In our study we had a look at the prevalence of chronic testicular pain in post-vasectomy men compared to non-vasectomised men.	In our study we assessed the prevalence of chronic testicular pain in post-vasectomy men compared to non-vasectomised men.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to be together	associate	Genome-wide association yields new sequence variants at seven loci, which are together with measures of obesity.	Genome-wide association yields new sequence variants at seven loci that associate with measures of obesity.
to have a guess	assume	They guessed the foreign agents had already entered the country.	They assumed the foreign agents had already entered the country.
to try sth	attempt	Here, we tried to repeat their method, but failed.	Here, we attempted to repeat their method; however, we failed.
to catch	capture	Integrans are mobile DNA units to catch and incorporate gene cassettes by site-specific recombination.	Integrans are mobile DNA units to capture and incorporate gene cassettes by site-specific recombination.
to have a look	check	Companies and recruiters routinely have a look at engine results to learn more about potential employees.	Companies and recruiters routinely check engine results to learn more about potential employees.
to shut down	close	The Utopian government jams satellite signals to shut down television and radio broadcasts.	The Utopian government jams satellite signals to close television and radio broadcasts.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to work together	collaborate	Chinese info-tech researchers often work together with scientists outside their own country.	Chinese info-tech researchers often collaborate with foreign scientists.
to make up	compensate	These payments were made to farmers to make up for cuts in subsidies.	These payments were made to farmers to compensate for cuts in subsidies.
to become (clear about)	comprehend	A doctor may not need to physically examine a patient to become clear about her condition.	A doctor may not need to physically examine a patient to comprehend her condition.
to be made up of	comprise	The country is made up of 50 states.	The country comprises 50 states.
to do	conduct	There is only a little research on the use of oil palm shell a coarse aggregated in the production of concrete.	Little research has been conducted on the use of oil palm shell a coarse aggregated in the production of concrete.
to think about sth	consider	Next , we thought about whether our results fitted into a previously proposed model.	Next , we considered whether our results fitted into a previously proposed model.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to keep a lid on sth	constrain	The heavier burden of debt-servicing costs will keep a lid on consumer budgets over the next year or so.	The heavier burden of debt-servicing costs will constrain consumer budgets over the coming years.
to have sth	consume	Developing countries have far fewer natural resources on a per capita basis than developed countries.	Developing countries consume far fewer natural resources on a per capita basis than developed countries.
to have sth	contain	The cerebellum has no more methylated RNAs than the cortex.	The cerebellum contains a similar number of methylated RNAs than the cortex.
To keep thinking about sth	contemplate	These scholars kept thinking about rewriting history.	These scholars were contemplating to rewrite history.
to keep going	continue	The GOLD initiative will keep bringing COPD to the attention of governments.	The GOLD initiative will continue to bring COPD to the attention of governments.
to give to	contribute	Taxpayers have given 200 million towards the cost of local child care.	Taxpayers have provided 200 million towards the cost of local child care.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to have a handle on sth	control	This method has a handle on the evaporation from a carburetor float bowl.	This method controls the evaporation from a carburetor float bowl.
	cooperate	States should have a handle on eliminating obstacles to development with each other.	States should cooperate with each other in eliminating obstacles to development.
to get/make less	decline	The birth rate continued to get lower .	The birth rate continued to decline .
to get/go lower	decrease	The number of penguins on the island has gotten lower over the last decade.	The number of penguins on the island has decreased over the last decade.
to come from	derive	The name Anastasia comes from a Greek word meaning "of the resurrection."	The name Anastasia is derived from a Greek word meaning "of the resurrection."
to find out	determine	Here we found out the precise mechanisms behind this phenomenon.	Here we determined the precise mechanisms behind this phenomenon.
to get lost	disappear	After two wash steps, the signal got lost .	After two wash steps, the signal disappeared .

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to find out sth (for the first time)	discover	Another group found out the precise mechanism for this interaction.	Another group discovered the precise mechanism for this interaction.
to cut down/off/up tease out	dissect	Here, we teased out the main players in this pathway.	Here, we dissected the main players in this pathway.
to get rid of	Eliminate/erase	This organization got rid of all subsidies for food and fuel.	This organization eliminated all subsidies for food and fuel.
to lie inside	to be embedded	The operation removed a nail lying inside the tissue.	The operation removed a nail embedded in the tissue.
to run into sth	Encounter/ engage	In business or in personal life, we run into problems almost on a daily basis.	In business as in personal life, we encounter challenges almost on a daily basis.
to have a (rough/wild) guess	estimate	Heath officials have a guess that smoking causes 1 Million premature death every year.	Heath officials estimate that smoking causes 1 Million premature death every year.
to have a look (at)	examine	Here, we had a look at the precise nature of the interaction between X and Y.	Here, we examined the precise nature of the interaction between X and Y.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to be bigger/longer than	exceed	In order to exclude temporary furloughs, separation has to be longer than 30 days to qualify.	In order to exclude temporary furloughs, separation has to exceed 30 days to qualify.
to be good (at)	excel	This opinion is supported by the fact that significant athlete product endorsers are good at their sport.	This opinion is supported by the fact that significant athlete product endorsers excel within their sport.
to take out	exclude	To adjust for these differences, we took out all values above this threshold.	To adjust for these differences, we excluded all values above this threshold.
to leave, to go/get/keep out	exit	In our protein structure, the associated RNA molecule goes out near the N-terminus.	In our protein structure, the associated RNA molecule exits near the N-terminus.
to get bigger	expand	Several recent studies have revealed why ozone hole has gotten bigger despite a ban on CFCs.	Several recent studies have revealed why the ozone hole has expanded despite a ban on CFCs.
to find sth	Identify/ illustrate/ impact/ implement/ imply/ include	Our analysis couldn't find any differences between group 1 and group 2.	Our analysis failed to identify any differences between group 1 and group 2.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to lay open	expose	Complement proteins C5b-C9 induce vesiculation of the endothelial plasma membrane and lay open catalytic surface for assembly of the ...	The complement proteins C5b-C9 expose the catalytic surface of the
to get/go/make bigger/stronger	increase/ incubate	Several studies have investigated why antibiotic resistance has gotten stronger in the past decade.	Several studies have investigated why antibiotic resistance has increased in the past decade.
to give a hint to hint at	indicate	Many scientific observations give a hint that Earth' magnetic field is undergoing a slow reversal.	A considerable number of scientific studies indicate that the Earth' magnetic field is undergoing a slow reversal.
to tell/ be told	inform/ be-ed	Patients were told about the risks in participating in these clinical trials.	Patients were informed about the risks in participating in these clinical trials.
to start up/to switch on/to turn on	initiate	The simultaneous generation of superoxide and nitric oxide turns on lipid peroxidation in human low density lipoprotein.	The simultaneous generation of superoxide and nitric oxide initiates lipid peroxidation in human low density lipoprotein.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to (try and) find out	inquire	The 60-min disclosure interview tried to find out about attitudes, experiences, and conflicts.	The 60-min disclosure interview inquired about attitudes, experiences, and conflicts.
to look at	inspect	To better understand the history of this painting, the researcher looked at the layers using UV light.	To better understand the history of this painting, the researcher inspected the layers using UV light.
to look into	investigate	Scientists are looking into innovative ways to combat COVID-19.	Scientists are currently investigating innovative ways to combat COVID-19.
Broken	interrupted (is~)	The trithorax-like gene is broken by chromosome 11q23 translocations in patients with acute leukaemias.	The trithorax-like gene is interrupted by chromosome 11q23 translocations in patients with acute leukaemias.
take part (in)	involved/be -ed	Most miRNAs are 22-nucleotide RNA molecules take part in gene regulation.	Most miRNAs are 22-nucleotide RNA molecules involved in gene regulation.
to not have, to not show	lack	All previously reported structures don't have these important details.	All previously reported structures lack these important details.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to kick off	launch	The European Space Agency's manned space travel campaign kicked off in 2009.	The European Space Agency's manned space travel campaign was launched in 2009.
to give	lend	The painting were given to the museum for 3 months.	The painting were lent to the museum for 3 months.
to put together	link	T-02D enables REGZA devices to put together with REGZA Blu-ray players.	T-02D enables REGZA devices to be linked with REGZA Blu-ray players.
Is/ gather around/ fall into	located (is ~)	Of 832 stores, 203 were in enclosed malls.	Of 832 stores, 203 were located in enclosed malls.
to keep constant	maintain	The moon is (known to be) critical for keeping the rotational speed of Earth.	The moon is (known to be) critical for maintaining the rotational speed of Earth.
to get the hang of sth	master	We tried to figure out how participants got the hang of using the complex software package so quickly.	We investigated how people mastered the complex software package in such a short time.
to point out	mention	That review article failed to point out the original description of this method.	That review article failed to mention the original description of this method.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to make sth less harmful/to lessen the effects	mitigate	Afforestation is one option to lessen the effects of climate change.	Afforestation is one option to mitigate the effects of climate change.
to curb	mitigate	The latest ads revolved around the claim that milk can curb symptoms of premenstrual syndrome.	The latest ads revolved around the claim that milk can mitigate symptoms of premenstrual syndrome.
to watch carefully	monitor	Cities from New York to San Diego to San Francisco now watch public spaces.	Cities from New York to San Diego to San Francisco now monitor public spaces.
to look at	observe	This activity can be looked at and analyzed in the Simulator Client.	This activity can be observed and analyzed in the Simulator Client.
to get hold of sth	obtain	This law will enable criminals to get hold of firearms more easily.	This law will enable criminals to more easily obtain firearms.
to give	offer	How we solved this problem should give valuable lessons for all environmental policymaking.	How we solved this problem should offer valuable lessons for all environmental policymaking.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to stop (temporarily)	pause	We reveal that this enzyme stops for a while , before proceeding to the end of the transcription process.	We reveal that this enzyme pauses half-way, before proceeding to the end of the transcription process.
to do sth to undertake	perform	No further post-processing was done on these images.	No further post-processing was performed on these images.
to put into	place	Water separation reached x% if the same emulsion was put into an acidic environment.	Water separation reached x% if the same emulsion was placed into an acidic environment.
to make dirty	pollute	However, environmental groups claim that regulations remain insufficiently stringent, and that this practice still makes the ground water dirty.	However, environmental groups claim that regulations remain insufficiently stringent, and that this practice still pollutes ground water.
to have sth to own	possess	Human fat cells own a plasma membrane-bound H ₂ O ₂ -generating system that is activated by insulin.	Human fat cells possess a plasma membrane-bound H ₂ O ₂ -generating system that is activated by insulin.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
to have a guess	predict	We guess that our newly developed method will reduce costs of treating hip fractures by 50%.	We predict that our newly developed method will reduce costs of treating hip fractures by 50%.
to get ready	prepare	First, we got a mouse full-length cDNA encyclopedia ready .	First, a mouse full-length cDNA encyclopedia was prepared .
to give	present	Here, we give evidence that our method increases computing speed by about 200%.	Here, we present evidence that our method increases computing speed by approx. 200%.
to stop sth from happening	prevent	Peroxisome-proliferator-activated receptor delta activates fat metabolism thus stopping obesity from happening.	Peroxisome-proliferator-activated receptor delta activates fat metabolism, thus preventing obesity.
to go forward	progress	Doctors visit patients once a day to check how their patients are going .	Doctors visit patients once a day to check how their patients are progressing .
to give (to)	provide	All previously reported structures didn't give further details.	All previously reported structures failed to provide further details.
to ask (about sth)	question	To ask about a doctor's decision is rarely observed across cultures.	To question a doctor's decision is rarely observed across cultures.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to bring up, to take up, to bring out	raise	Here, we investigated whether mammography brings up anxiety in women, fearing to receive a positive test result.	Here, we investigated whether mammography raises anxiety in women, fearing to receive a positive test result.
to be	range	The double average hop delay is between 3-7.	The double average hop delay ranges between 3-7.
To get (to)	reach	Water separation got to x% if the same emulsion was tested in an acidic environment.	Water separation reached x% if the same emulsion was tested in an acidic environment.
to figure (out)	realize	Sellers must figure out that shill bidding is immoral.	Sellers must realize that shill bidding is immoral.
to make sth (less)	reduce	A method is presented for generating shaped command inputs that significantly make endpoint vibration less .	A method is presented for generating shaped command inputs that significantly reduce endpoint vibration.
To not want	reject	We don't want drug manufacturers to advertise directly to consumers.	Drug manufacturers attempts to advertise directly to consumers have been rejected .

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to let go sth to let out	release	Toxic gases were let out during the purification process.	Toxic gases were released during the purification process.
to stay (somewhere) to be left	remain	It is left unclear why antibiotic resistance has increased in the past decade.	It remains unclear why antibiotic resistance has increased in the past decade.
to get rid of sth to take out	remove	Customs officials got rid off the evidence before the inspection.	Customs officials removed the evidence before the inspection.
to tell (about)	report	A number of studies told us about these phenomena.	A number of studies reported on these phenomena.
to keep down	repress	Initially, miRNAs were thought to keep down protein output with little influence on mRNA levels.	Initially, miRNAs were thought to repress protein output with little influence on mRNA levels.
to need sth	require	In this experiment, rats needed to approach the platform from a novel starting position.	This experiment required rats to approach the platform from a novel starting position.
to look like/to be like	resemble	Fictional aliens look like little green men.	Fictional aliens resemble little green men.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to keep	retain	Workers who keep their jobs over several years will be higher productivity workers.	Workers who retain their jobs over several years will become higher productivity workers.
to go back	return	Rats were made to go back to the starting points, before a new round of experiments started.	Rats were returned into their cages before a new round of experiments was initiated.
to point out, to make known	reveal	Recent energy-balance studies point out that gut microbes, caloric load, and nutrient absorption are intimately associated in humans.	Recent energy-balance studies revealed that gut microbes, caloric load, and nutrient absorption are intimately associated in humans.
to go up	rise	Prices will go up unless innovative fiscal measures are introduced.	Prices will rise unless innovative fiscal measures are introduced.
to look for	search	To this end, we looked for data encrypted using a public key system.	To this end, we searched for data encrypted using a public key system.
to take (some)	select	Here, we took ten data sets to test our model.	Here, we selected ten data sets to test our model.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to make easier	simplify	We made the procedure easier by reducing the number of steps by half.	We simplified the procedure by reducing the number of steps by half.
to say	state	The report said that year-on-year profits were reduced by around 80%.	The report stated that year-on-year profits were reduced by around 80%.
to stop (sth)	suspend	To break the cycle of transmission, all traffic was stopped .	To break the cycle of transmission, all traffic was suspended .
to switch off	terminate	The response was switched off by knocking out P2X3 expressed by DRG neurons.	The response was terminated by knocking out P2X3 expressed by DRG neurons.
to put up with sth	tolerate	Rhiospahre bacteria help plants put up with abiotic stress.	Rhiospahre bacteria assist plants in tolerating abiotic stress.
to put into	transfer	To this end, we put solution A into solution B and mixed for 30 min.	To this end, we transferred solution A into solution B and mixed for 30 min.
to become (clear about)	understand	GCM land surface schemes help to become clearer about the responses to climate change.	GCM land surface schemes assist in better understanding the responses to climate change.

Informal verb forms (to avoid)	Formal verb forms (to be used)	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences(formal statements)
to open (up)	unlock	These measures should assist in opening up the rich reserves of talents.	These measures should assist in unlocking the rich reserves of talents.
to double-check sth	verify	To double-check our findings, we applied a second method.	To verify our findings, we applied a second method.
to get	yield	Genome-wide association gets new sequence variants at seven loci that associate with measures of obesity.	Genome-wide association yields new sequence variants at seven loci that associate with measures of obesity.

Run-on, There be & Others

Category	Check	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
错误的称谓	You/Your	You can see the results in Table 1.	The results can be seen in Table 1.
	I/My	In this paper I argue that...	This paper argues that...
	They	For red apples, they are sweeter than green apples.	Red apples are sweeter than green apples.
	We (other than authors)	As we all know,...	It is well established that...
尽量避免的副词、形容词等	Always	Always , detection of BCR-ABL mutations in patients with CML treated with imatinib is accompanied by clinical resistance.	Detection of BCR-ABL mutations in patients with CML treated with imatinib is virtually always accompanied by clinical resistance.
	Actually	Actually , formaldehyde is present in all vertebrate cells.	Formaldehyde is actually present in all vertebrate cells.
	Huge	The Osceola Mudflow from Mount Rainier: Sedimentology and hazard implications of a huge clay-rich debris flow.	The Osceola Mudflow from Mount Rainier: Sedimentology and hazard implications of an enormous/considerable clay-rich debris flow.
	Obviously	Changes were obviously larger.	Changes were visibly increased.
	Tougher	The diagnosis and management of asthma is much tougher in older patients.	The diagnosis and management of asthma is more difficult in older patients.
	Wholesome	The contents of wholesome elements and heavy metals in ten soybean species were studied by...	The contents of healthy elements and heavy metals in soybean species were studied by...

	a lot of	There has been a lot of interest in how background sounds such as music affect an individual's ability to concentrate.	Considerable interest exists in how background sounds such as music affect an individual's ability to concentrate.
	lots of	We organized lots of gear for use in hospitals.	We organized considerable amounts gear for use in hospitals.
	amazing	Our approach produced amazing results.	Our approach produced unexpected/highly reproducible/consistent/surprising results.
	a little bit	There is only a little bit research on the use of oil palm shell a coarse aggregated in the production of concrete.	Little research has been conducted on the use of oil palm shell a coarse aggregated in the production of concrete.
	a big	There was one big problem.	This situation presented a considerable challenge.
	Some	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been studied in some literatures.	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been reported in a number of studies.
	A few	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been studied in a few literatures.	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been reported in a small number of studies.
	Quite	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been studied in quite a lot of literatures.	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been reported in a large number of studies.
	Bigger and bigger	...getting bigger and bigger	... is increasing
避免用直接问句	Why?	Why has antibiotic resistance increased in the past decade?	Several studies have investigated why antibiotic resistance has increased in the past decade.
	What?	What can be done to lower the costs for patients?	It is necessary to consider how costs for patients may be lowered.
	When?	When is the channel characteristic not available at the transmitter?	This paper explores the restraint condition of the channel characteristic at the transmitter.
	Where?	Where did old and new media collide?	It is necessary to consider where the old and new media collide.
	How?	How does the background sounds such as music affect an individual's ability to concentrate?	Considerable interest exists in identifying how background sounds such as music affect an individual's ability to concentrate.
	Does...?	Does this fit with a previously proposed model?	We wondered whether our results fit into a previously proposed model.

Overuse of Weak & Hedging Expressions

Category	Weak and hedging expressions	English sample sentences (original statements)	English sample sentences (improved statements)
Introductory Verbs	seem, tend, look like, appear to be, think, believe, doubt, be sure, indicate, suggest	Many scientific observations indicate that the Earth may be undergoing a period of relatively rapid change.	Many scientific observations indicate that the Earth is undergoing a period of rapid change.
Certain modal verbs	can, could, may, might, will, must, would	An artificial cell or minimal cell is an engineered particle that can mimic one or many functions of a biological cell.	An artificial cell or minimal cell is an engineered particle that mimics one or many functions of a biological cell.
Certain lexical verbs	believe, assume, suggest	The intracellular distribution of X suggests that X crosses the BBB most likely via Y.	The intracellular distribution of X suggests that X crosses the BBB via Y.

Category	Weak and hedging expressions	English sample sentences (informal statements)	English sample sentences (formal statements)
Adjectives expressing quantity	some, many, much	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been studied in some literatures.	Predicting content popularity in online manner has been reported in a number of studies.
Adjectives expressing probability	likely, unlikely, probable, possible	For example, it is possible to see that in January this person weighed 60.8 kg for eight days.	For example, in January this person weighed 60.8 kg for eight days.
Adverbs expressing probability	perhaps, possibly, probably, apparently, evidently, presumably, relatively	We hypothesized that there is a chance that X possibly recruits Y to Z in a x-dependent manner.	On the basis of these results, we hypothesized that X recruits Y to Z in a x-dependent manner.
Adverbs expressing frequency	occasionally, sometimes, generally, usually, often, seldom	Yet often it cannot have been the case that a recalcitrant trustee remained in possession of the property entrusted to him.	Yet a recalcitrant trustee did not remain in possession of the property entrusted to him.