Assignment—2

李路岩 202437067

November 10, 2024

1 Briefly describe four Editing Checklist items that you think are important for improving the representation of a research paper.

1) **Are abbreviations and acronyms stated in full when first used? Are any abbreviations or acronyms introduced more than once? Are the full statements subsequently used unnecessarily?**

Using abbreviations and acronyms correctly in a research paper enhances clarity and professionalism. When abbreviations are stated in full at first mention, it helps readers understand the term without confusion, especially if they' re unfamiliar with it. Consistent use of abbreviations afterward keeps the writing concise and avoids unnecessary repetition, maintaining a smooth flow. Unnecessary reintroduction of full terms or abbreviations can make the paper seem disorganized. Following these practices also demonstrates attention to detail, which strengthens the paper's credibility and readability.

2) **Are names always used in the same way? Has a consistent convention been used for the formation of new names?**

Maintaining consistency in the use of names and naming conventions throughout a research paper ensures clarity and prevents confusion. When names are always presented in the same way, readers can easily follow the references and terminology without needing to reinterpret or guess meanings. This is especially important when new names or terms are introduced, as a consistent formation and style help reinforce understanding and credibility. Additionally, a coherent naming approach reflects attention to detail and professionalism, which enhances the paper's overall quality and readability.

3) **Are all values of the same type presented with the sameprecision?**

Presenting all values of the same type with consistent precision is essential for clarity and professionalism in a research paper. Consistent precision makes it easier for readers to compare values directly without ambiguity, which is especially important in quantitative research. When precision varies, it can imply different levels of accuracy or significance, which may confuse readers and detract from the paper's credibility. A standardized approach

to precision also demonstrates attention to detail, enhancing the overall coherence and rigor of the work.

4) **Are the graphs all the same size? Are the axis units always given? If, say, the x-axes on different graphs measure the same units, do the axes have the same label?**

Ensuring that graphs in a research paper are consistent in size, labeled with axis units, and use uniform labels for identical units across different graphs is crucial for readability and professionalism. Uniform graph sizes improve visual harmony, making the paper appear organized and cohesive. Clearly labeling axis units prevents misunderstandings, as readers can instantly interpret data without guessing unit types. Using identical labels for identical units on different graphs avoids confusion, helping readers to compare data accurately across figures. This level of consistency reflects meticulous preparation, enhancing both the paper' s clarity and credibility.

2 Briefly discuss how to give a good present your research in a conference talk.

To deliver an effective research talk at a conference, focus on clarity, engagement, and timing. Start with a strong opening that captures interest, then structure the talk around a single main idea or result that you want the audience to remember. Carefully select and order the key points, ensuring they fit the time allotted without overwhelming the audience

Use slides as focal points—each should be self-contained, with clear headings and visuals. Practice timing to stay within limits, and avoid reading directly from slides. Engage the audience by speaking clearly and handling questions openly; repeat questions for clarity and address the entire audience. Finally, end with a clear summary of your main points, and possibly outline future directions

3 Drawing information or content from the work of another without acknowledging the source by citing a reference is considered to be plagiarism. But it is OK to use information from the author' s work that is regarded as common knowledge in the discipline. Explain why

Using another author' s work without citation constitutes plagiarism, as it implies that the ideas or findings are the writer' s own, misleading readers and potentially violating the intellectual property rights of the original author. Plagiarism undermines trust within the academic community and disregards the effort that went into the original work, which is why correct citation is central to maintaining academic integrity

However, citing every piece of information is not necessary, especially when it comes to common knowledge within a discipline. Common knowledge refers to widely accepted facts, observations, or insights that are generally understood within a field and can easily be verified by consulting standard references. For instance, in biology, it' s widely known that DNA carries genetic information; in physics, the concept of gravity is well-established. Such facts don' t need individual attribution because they are foundational knowledge, familiar to both writers and readers. Omitting citations for common knowledge avoids an overload of unnecessary references, creating a cleaner, more focused presentation of new ideas.

Additionally, not citing common knowledge allows authors to keep the spotlight on novel contributions and unique research findings. It also streamlines communication, especially in specialized fields, where referencing every widely understood fact would clutter the text and obscure the main arguments. However, writers must still be cautious, as what qualifies as common knowledge may vary across disciplines and audiences. In cases of doubt, it' s prudent to cite sources, preserving academic rigor and respecting the intellectual property of other researchers

4 You are writing a computer program. The documentation for a piece of a code you need is on the Web and the author has given permission to use the code. Do you cite the source? Why or why not?

Yes, I will cite the source, Here are the reasons:

1) Acknowledging Contributions: As per "A Guide to Ethical Writing...(1)" under Guideline 1, an ethical writer always acknowledges the contributions of others and the source of their ideas. This principle applies to code as well, as it is an intellectual creation.

2) Copyright and Permission: While the author has given permission to use the code, it is still protected under copyright. As mentioned in the section on Intellectual Creations, copyright prohibits the use without permission of substantial volumes of text or code. Citing the source respects the copyright holder's rights and acknowledges their permission.

3) Attribution: Even if permission is granted, brief pieces of text or code can be used so long as they are attributed, that is, quoted. This is in line with the principles of fair use and proper attribution.

4) Avoiding Plagiarism: As stated under the section on Plagiarism, plagiarism involves the re-use of material without appropriate acknowledgement. By citing the source, can avoid plagiarism and maintain the integrity of your work.

5) Ethical Responsibility: Guideline 8 from "A Guide to Ethical Writing...(2)" emphasizes the ethical responsibility to respect others' ideas and words, to credit those from whom you borrow, and to use one's own words when paraphrasing. This guideline can be extended to code, implying that can should give credit to the original author