

## Scientific English: Key points

### Be clear

- Use active verbs (avoid: *do, make, get*)
- Use precise vocab and be quantitative (avoid: *some, a few, many, good*)
- Put the subject/important information at the beginning of the sentence.
- Keep basic word order (subject, verb, object) with elements close together
- Check for false friends (*important, realise, thanks to, control, sensible, experience, actually, eventually*)
- Avoid informal language (e.g., contractions, *like, little, big, gonna, wanna*)
- Use the active voice (personal + impersonal form)
- Avoid noun strings

### Be concise

- Avoid long sentences
- Use simple words and phrases
- Cut out redundant or repeated words  
We used ~~two~~ databases, X and Y, both of which...
- Use verbs! Replace the verb + noun construction with a single verb  
~~to reach a conclusion~~ to conclude  
~~X was used in the calculation of Y~~ X was used to calculate Y

### Bibliography

Wallwork, A. (2016). English for Writing Research Papers, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Springer, pp375

Day, R.A., Day, N. and Sakaduski, N. (2011). Scientific English: A Guide for Scientists and Other Professionals, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Greenwood, pp 226