



Scientific Writing = Thinking in Words

By David Lindsay

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Scientific Writing = Thinking in Words By David Lindsay

Telling people about research is just as important as doing it. But many researchers, who, in all other respects, are competent scientists, are afraid of writing. They are wary of the unwritten rules, the unspoken dogma and the inexplicably complex style, all of which seem to pervade conventional thinking about scientific writing.

This book has been written to expose these phantoms as largely smoke and mirrors, and replace them with principles that make communicating research easier and encourage researchers to write confidently. It presents a way of thinking about writing that emulates the way good scientists think about research. It concentrates on the structure of articles, rather than simply on grammar and syntax. So, it is an ideal reference for researchers preparing articles for scientific journals, posters, conference presentations, reviews and popular articles; for students preparing theses; and for researchers whose first language is not English. Scientific Writing = Thinking in Words expounds principles that produce scientific articles in a wide range of disciplines that are focussed, concise and, best of all, easy to write and read. As one senior scientist observed, 'This book not only made me a better writer; it made me a better scientist'.

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Editorial Review

Review

"*Scientific Writing = Thinking in Words* provides a fine assessment of scientific writing and research, surveying unspoken dogma, unwritten rules, and the complexities of article structure. Any researcher preparing articles for scientific journals and reviews will find this packed with basic principles applicable to scientific articles in a range of disciplines."

"Lindsay's nitty-gritty guide to style and clarity covers all aspects of scientific writing for both text and oral presentation... This concise guide demonstrates through good and bad examples how a well-reasoned and well-expressed argument helps focus thinking to make a memorable impact. Summing Up: Highly Recommended."

"...[S]hould be read by every scientist."

About the Author

David Lindsay was a researcher and teacher in animal biology and behaviour at the University of Western Australia for 33 years. He initiated courses in writing scientific papers and wrote *A Guide to Scientific Writing* in 1984. Now retired from active research, he teaches scientific writing to scientists all over the world.

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