

Report to Authors 2014

The use of incorrect words, etc.

This can include grammatical errors, the wrong word, etc.:

- the rate of iron release is **quicker** in low pH
- the rate of iron release is faster at low pH
- Many kinds of reductants and chelators are reported **like** $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ and bipyridyl
- Many kinds of reductants and chelators are reported such as $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ and bipyridyl
- the molecular ratio of EGCG to ferritin was **fewer** than 40
- the molecular ratio of EGCG to ferritin was lower than 40.

- However, a relatively high retention of P and an increase in N:P ratio are found along the North Jiulong River due to the great **amount** of hydropower dams installed along the river channel
- However, a relatively high retention of P and an increase in N:P ratio are found along the North Jiulong River due to the great number of hydropower dams installed along the river channel
- Mercury also adversely affects the reproductive systems of **humans and animals**.
- Mercury also adversely affects the reproductive systems of humans and other animals.

- the hepatic function of **mammals and humans**
- the hepatic function of mammals including humans
- how can we **get** the optimal combination of nutrient reduction strategies?
- how can we obtain the optimal combination of nutrient reduction strategies?
- The recruitment sequences observed in **great** amounts
- The recruitment sequences observed in large amounts
- real** seawater
- natural seawater

- Firstly, ozone gas was forced to dissolve in the dye solution; secondly, ...
- First, ozone gas was forced to dissolve in the dye solution; secondly, ...
- the cross-reactivity was determined using Northern blot, Southern blot and Western Blot assay.
- the cross-reactivity was determined using northern blot, Southern blot and western blot assay.
- The tissues tested included subcuticular epithelia (body wall), gills, heart, hepatopancreas, reproductive system, muscle, mid gut, thoracic ganglion, brain and hemocyte
- The tissues tested were subcuticular epithelia (body wall), gills, heart, hepatopancreas, reproductive system, muscle, mid gut, thoracic ganglion, brain and hemocyte

- **Less** lymphocytes were seen
- **Fewer** lymphocytes were seen

Beside means 'next to'.

Besides means 'apart from' or 'and another thing'.

- **Beside** its function in gametogenesis, Gsdf is suggested as being downstream of Dmy in the sex-determining cascade
- **Besides** its function in gametogenesis, Gsdf is suggested as being downstream of Dmy in the sex-determining cascade

- **As** the application of organochlorine and organophosphor pesticides has been prohibited, the use of modern replacement pesticides has sharply increased.
- Since the application of organochlorine and organophosphor pesticides has been prohibited, the use of modern replacement pesticides has sharply increased.
- **Though** the gonadosomatic index had decreased in a dose-dependent manner, there was a reduced number of mature sperm
- Although the gonadosomatic index had decreased in a dose-dependent manner, there was a reduced number of mature sperm

- The total amount of COD_{Cr} discharged into the bay was about 40941 t/a.
- The total amount of COD_{Cr} discharged into the bay was approximately 40941 t/a.

One very common mistake is the use of “according to” versus “based on”

- Sequence searches were carried out using a custom-made database comprising the members of various transporter families **according to** the Transporter Classification system

- Sequence searches were carried out using a custom-made database comprising the members of various transporter families **based on** the Transporter Classification system

and correctly used:

- According to Montoya et al. (1996), South American kills of mackerel can be attributed to direct exposure to *Alexandrium tamarense* blooms

Based on the records means that you came to a conclusion after you read the facts in the records, but the conclusion itself was not in the records.

According to the records means that the conclusion was in the records.

Another common mistake involves the terms “due to” and “owing to”.

- most measurements for relative humidity were lost **due to** instrumental trouble
- most measurements for relative humidity were lost **owing to** instrumental trouble
- A particularly high N: P ratio (33) has been observed in the Pearl River estuary, **owing to** eutrophication
- A particularly high N: P ratio (33) has been observed in the Pearl River estuary, **due to** eutrophication

The use of “comprised”:

NOT The sample was ***comprised*** **of** various species – either:

The sample comprised various species [The whole comprises the parts] OR

The sample was composed of various species [various species composed the sample
- the parts compose the whole] OR

The sample consisted of various species OR

The sample contained various species

Using the wrong tense, etc.

First of all, remember the general rules regarding reporting previously published work (PRESENT tense) and your own results (PAST tense).

Examples are:

- The α -tubulin proteins **have been linked** to heavy metal tolerance (**Mattingly et al., 2001; Mireji et al., 2010**), which **is** exemplified **in our study**
- The α -tubulin proteins are linked to heavy metal tolerance (Mattingly et al., 2001; Mireji et al., 2010), which was exemplified in our study
- Our results **show** that the construction process used for preparing uniform oxygen sensing films **is** reproducible.
- Our results showed that the construction process used for preparing uniform oxygen sensing films was reproducible.

- Rasmussen et al. (2008) **reported** that soil organic matter **was** a key factor controlling metal partitioning
- Rasmussen et al. (2008) report that soil organic matter is a key factor controlling metal partitioning

in equations:

- [equation] N_S **was** the SCS endmember TOC concentration, and N_K **was** the model predicted TOC concentration.
- [equation] N_S is the SCS endmember TOC concentration, and N_K is the model predicted TOC concentration.

Note the exceptions when referring to Figures and Tables:

- **was** revealed in Table 3
- **is** revealed in Table 3

- Fig. 2 **displayed** the arithmetic means with standard deviation
- Fig. 2 **displays** the arithmetic means with standard deviation

Plurals v singulars

Remember the rule:

- a number of ... were
- the number of ... was

as in:

- the highest number of TBDTs were observed there
- the highest number of TBDTs was observed there

compare this with

- the highest numbers of TBDTs were observed there

- These results were in good agreement with **that** investigated in acid media
- These results were in good agreement with those investigated in acid media
- The sequence data **was** evaluated
- The sequence data were evaluated
- Previous **researches** on mercury toxicity concerned mainly mammals
- Previous research on mercury toxicity concerned mainly mammals
- The **salinity** of freshwater, mid-salinity and seawater endmembers **were** 0.11, 15.06 and 24.5
- The salinity of freshwater, mid-salinity and seawater endmembers was 0.11, 15.06 and 24.5

Unnecessary or incorrect use of "respectively"

It is common sense and not a rule which is important with "respectively".

If it is not clear in which order two parts of a sentence are linked then it should be used, otherwise it is not needed.

Examples of where it was incorrect:

- The concentrations in the surface water ranged from 0.145 to 2.799 pmol/kg for CFC-12, 1.754 to 7.711 pmol/kg for CFC-11, 0.074 to 0.446 pmol/kg and 2.223-7.913 pmol/kg for CCl₄, **respectively**.
- The concentrations in the surface water ranged from 0.145 to 2.799 pmol/kg for CFC-12, 1.754 to 7.711 pmol/kg for CFC-11, 0.074 to 0.446 pmol/kg and 2.223-7.913 pmol/kg for CCl₄.
- the concentration levels of the total eight target compounds ranged from 32.34 - 112.65 ng L⁻¹ for the Jiulong River, 45.13 - 321.90 ng L⁻¹ for the Estuary, and 38.60 - 300.95 ng L⁻¹ for the Taiwan Strait, **respectively**.
- the concentration levels of the total eight target compounds ranged from 32.34 - 112.65 ng L⁻¹ for the Jiulong River, 45.13 - 321.90 ng L⁻¹ for the Estuary, and 38.60 - 300.95 ng L⁻¹ for the Taiwan Strait.

- using three times the standard deviation of triplicate procedural blanks as 0.60 nmol/L for Al, 0.06 nmol/L for Mn, and 0.09 nmol/L for Mo, **respectively**.
- using three times the standard deviation of triplicate procedural blanks as 0.60 nmol/L for Al, 0.06 nmol/L for Mn, and 0.09 nmol/L for Mo.
- 10 normal mature crabs (five males and five females **respectively**) were carefully dissected
- 10 normal mature crabs (five males and five females) were carefully dissected

An example where it was not needed:

- MDA levels after treatment with JS01 supernatant for 36 and 48 h were 2.75 ($p<0.05$) and 10.44 ($p<0.01$) times those of the control, respectively.
- MDA levels after treatment with JS01 supernatant for 36 and 48 h were 2.75 ($p<0.05$) and 10.44 ($p<0.01$) times those of the control.

It is needed in:

- The type strains of these two species: *P. halolerans* B2T and *P. luteolum* 1_C16_27T were isolated from seawater collected from the euphotic layer of the East China Sea and an industrial solid waste sample in north-eastern Estonia, respectively.
- the Gram-negative *Vibrio cholerae* secretes mainly D-methionine and D-leucine; the Gram-positive *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Deinococcus radiodurans* secrete large amounts of D-Ala and D-threonine, respectively; and *Bacillus subtilis* secretes mainly D-tyrosine and D-phenylalanine.
- The concentration, titer, purity and specificity of the purified anti-SCY2 antibody were analyzed using an ultraviolet spectrophotometer, ELISA, SDS-PAGE and western blot, respectively.

Unnecessary use of other words

- , as revealed by a **previous** study in an organic-rich estuary (Batchelli et al., 2009)
- , as revealed by a study in an organic-rich estuary (Batchelli et al., 2009)
- **It has been reported that** the hybridization of graphene .. can result in physical properties ... (Bissessur et al. 2006).
- The hybridization of graphene .. can result in physical properties ... (Bissessur et al. 2006).
- Tidally driven seawater recirculation **is shown to drive down** the pH in coral reefs⁹
- Tidally driven seawater recirculation drives down the pH in coral reefs⁹

- SGD-derived high fluxes of free CO₂ are shown to be a positive feedback to ocean acidification in coral reef systems.³⁵
- SGD-derived high fluxes of free CO₂ are a positive feedback to ocean acidification in coral reef systems.³⁵
- In addition, we also found that ...
- In addition, we found that ...
- the DIP reduced down to below the detection limit
- the DIP reduced to below the detection limit
- in the time range of 0-240 min and the pH range of 2.00-6.50
- in the time range 0-240 min and the pH range 2.00-6.50

- linearity was found to be in the range **from** 10 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ to 300 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$.
- linearity was found to be in the range 10 to 300 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$.
- both **of the two** air pressure datasets
- both air pressure datasets
- Results with confidence interval **percentage** values greater than 95% were considered to be a positive identification.
- Results with confidence interval percentage values greater than 95 were considered to be a positive identification.
- **Possible** reasons were that the sediment samples collected from the HRE were **probably** more selective ...
- Possible reasons were that the sediment samples collected from the HRE were more selective ...

- Furthermore, there are also some reports that ...
- Furthermore, there are some reports that ...
- The full length of mtnr1c cDNA sequence was 1615 nt long.
- The full length of mtnr1c cDNA sequence was 1615 nt.
- the ventricle and atrium were largely overlapping by each other
- the ventricle and atrium were largely overlapping

Use of "by" instead of "using" or "with"

All too often equipment, chemicals and other materials are given the power to do something because of the word "by". Of course it is we who are able to do things – **we** "use" materials. Examples are:

- The reported concentrations of PAHs were corrected **by** blank values and recovery rates.
- The reported concentrations of PAHs were corrected using blank values and recovery rates.
- Total gonad proteins (180 mg) were separated **by** 2-DE (pH 5-8; T= 10%) and visualized **by** silver staining.
- Total gonad proteins (180 mg) were separated with 2-DE (pH 5-8; T= 10%) and visualized using silver staining.

- multiple DNA targets can also be quantified **by use of** ICPMS with a novel hybridization isotope dilution analysis strategy
- multiple DNA targets can also be quantified using ICPMS with a novel hybridization isotope dilution analysis strategy
- Sole carbon source utilization was determined **by using** BM medium supplemented with 1.5% (w/v) NaCl and sugar (0.2%), alcohol (0.2%), organic acid (0.1%) or amino acid (0.1%).
- Sole carbon source utilization was determined using BM medium supplemented with 1.5% (w/v) NaCl and sugar (0.2%), alcohol (0.2%), organic acid (0.1%) or amino acid (0.1%).
- The relative mRNA levels of target genes were determined **by** the comparative Ct method [31] **using** the β -actin gene as internal control.
- The relative mRNA levels of target genes were determined using the comparative Ct method [31] with the β -actin gene as internal control.

Spell check

Poor spelling is inexcusable since dictionaries, both in print and on-line, and programmes for spell checking are easily obtainable. Like poor referencing, poor spelling is often taken as an indication of a lazy author!

Correct use of citations and references

The last step before submitting the manuscript is always to check that:

- your references are correct – the authors, title, year, journal, page numbers
- your list of references and your citations in the text match
- the style in which you present your references matches the style required by the journal

Citations: These should include only the author's surname and year of publication for a single author; X and Y and the date for two authors; and X *et al* and the date for more than two authors. OR They may be required as bracketed numbers only. Make sure these occur in increasing numerical order both in the text and the reference list.

- (Rustin, 2002) - Rustin, P., Munnich, A., Rotig, A., 2002. Succinate dehydrogenase and human diseases: new insights into a well-known enzyme. ...
- (Rustin et al., 2002) - Rustin, P., Munnich, A., Rotig, A., 2002. Succinate dehydrogenase and human diseases: new insights into a well-known enzyme.
- (Yan, 2001) - Yan, K., Popova, J. S., Moss, A., Shah, B., Rasenick, M. M., 2001. Tubulin stimulates adenylyl cyclase activity in C6 glioma cells by bypassing the beta-adrenergic receptor: ...
- (Yan et al., 2001) - Yan, K., Popova, J. S., Moss, A., Shah, B., Rasenick, M. M., 2001. Tubulin stimulates adenylyl cyclase activity in C6 glioma cells by bypassing the beta-adrenergic receptor: ...

- ([Wang, 1990](#)) - Wang, N., Yan, K., Rasenick, M. M., 1990. Tubulin binds specifically to the signal-transducing proteins, Gs alpha and Gi alpha 1. ...
- ([Wang et al., 1990](#)) - Wang, N., Yan, K., Rasenick, M. M., 1990. Tubulin binds specifically to the signal-transducing proteins, Gs alpha and Gi alpha 1. ...
- ([Rajanbabu et al., 2010](#)) - Rajanbabu, V., Chen, J.Y., 2010. Applications of antimicrobial peptides from fish and perspectives for the future ...
- ([Rajanbabu and Chen 2010](#)) - Rajanbabu, V., Chen, J.Y., 2010. Applications of antimicrobial peptides from fish and perspectives for the future ...

- (Hoskin et al., 2008) - Hoskin, D.W., Ramamoorthy, A., 2008. Studies on anticancer activity of antimicrobial peptides.
- (Hoskin and Ramamoorthy, 2008) - Hoskin, D.W., Ramamoorthy, A., 2008. Studies on anticancer activity of antimicrobial peptides. ...

Do not mix both systems or use “double” entries.

- The PCR conditions were as described in Zhang et al. (2008)
- The PCR conditions were as described elsewhere (62)
- The values were -0.57 ± 0.10 , which fitted well with the results of Blum ²⁸.
- The values were -0.57 ± 0.10 , which fitted well with earlier results ²⁸.

- *A. japonicus* with skin ulceration and peristome tumescence were identified as *Pseudoalteromonas* sp. and *P. tetraodonis* by Liu et al. [10].
- *A. japonicus* with skin ulceration and peristome tumescence were identified as *Pseudoalteromonas* sp. and *P. tetraodonis* [10].
- Yang et al. [29] and Lee et al. [31] indicate that the Hg^{2+} ion induces a highly conjugated rhodamine system via formation of opened-spirolactam to give a strong fluorescence emission.
- The Hg^{2+} ion induces a highly conjugated rhodamine system via formation of opened-spirolactam to give a strong fluorescence emission [29, 31].

- Zhang and Dasgupta [16] modify this reaction by replacing mercaptoethanol with sulfite
- This reaction was modified by replacing mercaptoethanol with sulfite [16].
- Lee et al. report mean concentrations of TBT of 308.7 ng/g wet wt in the muscle tissue of fish collected from Taiwanese harbors [6]
- Mean concentrations of TBT of 308.7 ng/g wet wt are found in the muscle tissue of fish collected from Taiwanese harbors [6]

- Cai et al. [2008] show that geographic distribution of POC fluxes is spatially resolvable, consistent mostly with the surface circulation pattern [Cai et al. 2008]
- Cai et al. [2008] show that geographic distribution of POC fluxes is spatially resolvable, consistent mostly with the surface circulation pattern
- As Kato reports, 2-furaldehyde exhibited a toasted flavor known as a heat product from amino acids and sugars (Kato et al., 2001).
- As Kato et al. (2001) report, 2-furaldehyde exhibited a toasted flavor known as a heat product from amino acids and sugars.

- were determined using the **Bradford's procedure (Bradford, 1976)**
- were determined using the **Bradford (1976) procedure**
- were used for DNA extraction with the modified **Bourrain method (Bourrain et al 1999)**
- were used for DNA extraction with the modified **Bourrain et al (1999) method**

References: Remember it is usual to use initials for names other than the author's family name. This sometimes causes confusion with Chinese names. If you have a name such as Huasheng Hong, this is more usually written as Hong H.S. However, Zheng Ai-rong has appeared as both Zheng A.R. and Zheng A. (which could prove to be a disadvantage in any author citation index!)

It is usual also to include all authors' names in the list of references and in the list of authors following the title. If this is not done they will not receive fair acknowledgment for their contribution, which is both unfair and an infringement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

- Kim H., Lee T. H., Park E. S., Suh J. M., **et al.**
- Kim H., Lee T. H., Park E. S., Suh J. M., Park S. J., Chung H. K., Kwon O. Y., Kim Y. K., Ro H. K. and Shong M.

The Harvard referencing style

There are a number of Harvard referencing style websites, e.g.

<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>

Different styles

- Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J.A.J., Lupton, R.A., 2000. The art of writing a scientific article. J. Sci. Commun. 163, 51-59. - full stops between initials, but no spaces
- Van der Geer, J, Hanraads, JAJ, Lupton, RA, 2000. The art of writing a scientific article. J. Sci. Commun. 163, 51-59. – no full stops between initials, and no spaces
- Van der Geer, J., J.A.J. Hanraads, R.A. Lupton, 2000. The art of writing a scientific article. J. Sci. Commun. 163, 51-59. - initials of first author after family name, but initials before family name for the other authors
- Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J. A. J., Lupton, R. A., 2000. The art of writing a scientific article. J. Sci. Commun. 163, 51-59. - full stops between initials, and spaces
- Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J.A.J., and Lupton, R.A., 2000. The art of writing a scientific article. J. Sci. Commun. 163, 51-59. – with “and” before the last author.

Multiple publications by the same author in one year

These should be listed as 1988a, 1988b, etc. Thus:

- Mari J. (1988a) A parvo-like virus from the crab *Carcinus mediterraneus*: pathological aspects, ultrastructure of the agent, and first biochemical characterization. J Invertebr Pathol **51**, 145-156.
- Mari J. (1988b) W2 virus Infection of the Crustacean *Carcinus mediterraneus*: a reovirus disease. J Gen Virol **69**, 561–571.

Order of references which have the same first author and one or more co-authors

The list of references should be arranged alphabetically on author's names, and chronologically per author. If an author's name in the list is also mentioned with co-authors the following order should be used:

- publications of the single author, arranged according to publication dates
- publications of the same author with one co-author, arranged as above
- publications of the author with more than one co-author, arranged as above.

Thus:

- LUNDHOLM N., 2002.
 - LUNDHOLM N., 2005.

 - LUNDHOLM N. & MOESTRUP Ø., 2002.
 - LUNDHOLM N. & DAUGBJERG N., 2004.

 - LUNDHOLM N. & DAUGBJERG N., 2005.
 - LUNDHOLM N. & MOESTRUP Ø., 2005.

 - LUNDHOLM N. & MOESTRUP Ø., 2006a.
 - LUNDHOLM N. & MOESTRUP Ø., 2006b.

 - LUNDHOLM N., MOESTRUP Ø. & HOEF-EMDEN K., 2002.
 - LUNDHOLM N., DAUGBJERG N. & MOESTRUP Ø., 2003
- etc.

Formatting and style

These are important details, since Editors often return papers to authors reminding them to use the Journal's formatting and style instructions.

In particular:

- be consistent with headings and subheadings;
- take care with spacing between words, sentences and paragraphs. Note in particular where spaces should occur:

- after a “.” as in “Fig. 1” or at the end of a sentence, or after a “, : ; ! ?” ;

and where spaces should not occur:

- after an opening bracket or before a closed one, or before a “.”

- always use italics for genera and species names. However, check the journal style for other uses of italics because some prefer Latin names such as “*et al.*” and “*in vivo*” to be in italics, whilst others do not;
- do not use double spaces between sentences;
- it is better not to use spaces to format documents. Use indentations and tabs;

- do not change the size or type of font without good reason to do so;
- in particular, the use of a different font for “°C” or “Δ” can result in a “□” or some other symbol appearing in the text. Try not to do this!
 - 2.5-3.5 □
 - 2.5-3.5 °C
 - (PS □), Photosystem □(PS □),
 - (PS I), Photosystem II (PS II),
 - coefficient and relative error (□ q) were calculated
 - coefficient and relative error (Δq) were calculated

And REMEMBER

Abstract Introduction Discussion	Always singular
Materials & Methods Conclusions	Usually plural but if only 1 material, or 1 method, or 1 conclusion, then singular
Results Acknowledgments References Legends to figures	Almost always plural

Questions and
Comments?

Thank you!