

Some common examples of superfluous, awkward, unnecessary, or unnecessarily-long phrases or words

It has been shown that many eutrophic freshwater bodies worldwide **are facing** high potential risk to form blooms occurring toxic cyanobacteria mass frequently ...

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Many eutrophic freshwater bodies face high risk of frequent toxic cyanobacterial blooms ...

In a study by Smith et al. (1967), they showed that ...

→

Smith et al. (1967) showed that ...

In order to determine the levels of diversity ...

→

To determine the levels of diversity ...

We **utilized** a linear regression to test ...

→

We **used** a linear regression to test ...

The authors found **a large number of** ...

→

The authors found many ...

The analyses **are dependent on** ...

→

The analyses depend on

In **the majority of** studies ...

→

In **most** studies ...

At the present time ... At this point in time ...

→

At present ... Currently ...

Future research **is needed to** assess ...

→

Future research should assess ...

It is worth noting that ... It should be noted ... forest amphibians can succumb to chytrid disease ...

→

Forest amphibians can succumb to chytrid disease ...

These results suggest that species richness may possibly relate to habitat complexity ...

→

These results suggest that species richness relates to habitat complexity ...

In general use simple direct language. Examples of words to avoid ...

discern, methodology, elucidate

Use instead ...

test, method, show

Avoid using unnecessary adverbs ...

e.g. The Andes Mountains are very high ...

Simply indicate that they are 'high' and if you wish to bolster the assertion cite some simple statistics.

Due to the fact that ...

e.g. Tree swallow populations are declining regionally due to the fact that insects are emerging asynchronously with peak breeding ...

Use instead ... 'because'

e.g. Tree swallow populations are declining regionally because insects are emerging asynchronously with peak breeding ...

Other words and phrases to avoid in scientific writing

(see <https://blog.scipress.com/posts/words-to-avoid-in-academic-writing>)

Contractions

For example ...

Can't = can not or cannot

doesn't or don't = does not or do not

isn't = is not

Slang

For example ...

a couple of = several

Colloquialisms & Idioms

to get through it = to survive

to get out of hand = to be no longer under control

a drop in the bucket = few or little

Clichés

in a twinkling of an eye = immediately, instantly