

Recommendations for preparation of text in English

Write in a clear style and preferably avoid the use of the passive voice. Instead, use the pronouns I (we), me (us), and my (our) to indicate the responsibility of the author(s) for the study.

Read your manuscript aloud to see how it sounds; correct the sentence structure where needed.

If English is not your first language, make sure that the manuscript is checked by a native English speaker, preferably one familiar with the subject and terms used in the paper.

We routinely check the language of all accepted manuscripts, and if we find it inadequate, manuscripts will be returned to the corresponding author for further corrections.

Tenses

In scientific writing, only two tenses — present and (simple) past — are normally used. So-called 'perfect tenses' (e.g., present perfect) should be avoided. Thus, the 'tense' rules given below should be followed:

- Established knowledge (results of previous studies) is given in the present tense.
- Descriptions of material and methods are in the (simple) past tense.
- Descriptions of results of the current study are in the past or present tense; use the present tense for descriptions of the permanent state of studied objects and phenomena (example: It was established that the species grows on south-facing slopes).
- Attributions [e.g., Jones (1995) reported that ...] are in the (simple) past tense.