

3. Style :

3.1. Definition :

Academic writing requires the use of an appropriate style that differs in significant ways from other forms of written communication. Using an academic writing style is not just about choosing the right words; it is about setting out your ideas and arguments in a coherent, accessible and well-evidenced manner.

The style of a particular piece must not only be consistent, but must also be proper for the message being conveyed and for the audience.

-One difficulty in using the appropriate style is knowing what is considered academic and what is not

-Deciding what is academic or not is further complicated by the fact that academic style differs from one area of study to another. For instance, contractions (e.g., *don't*) may be used in Philosophy but are not widely used in many other fields.

Sometimes the use of a direct question can be a very effective means to draw your reader's attention to a point. This may be particularly useful when laying out an argument or research questions to be answered. However, indirect questions, such as those on the right, are likely more common.

Why has antibiotic resistance increased?

Many studies have investigated *why antibiotic resistance has increased.*

or

It is important to understand *why antibiotic resistance has increased.*

or

It remains unclear *why antibiotic resistance has increased.*

Use as many words as you need to express your points, but try not to use too many words. If you are wordy, readers may have difficulty following your point.

It may be difficult to make a decision → Choosing the proper method may be difficult about the method that should be used

- Consider using both active and passive voice. Both active and passive voices are used in academic writing; the key is to choose the right voice for the right purpose

- Using Google Scholar to Identify Potentially Useful Words and Phrases

3.2. Guidelines :

A- Do not use idiomatic or colloquial vocabulary: kids, boss. Instead use standard English: children, manager.

B- Use vocabulary accurately. There is a difference between rule and law, or weather and climate, which you are expected to know if you study these subjects.

C- Be as precise as possible when dealing with facts or figures. Avoid phrases such as about a hundred or hundreds of years ago. If it is necessary to estimate numbers use approximately rather than about.

D- Conclusions should use tentative language. Avoid absolute statements such as unemployment causes crime. Instead use cautious phrases: unemployment may cause crime or tends to cause crime.

E- Avoid adverbs that show your personal attitude: **luckily, remarkably, surprisingly.**

F- Do not contract verb forms: don't, can't. Use the full form: **Do not, cannot.**

G- Although academic English tends to use the passive more than standard English, it should not be over-used. Both are needed