DOs And DON’Ts In Scientific English Writing

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Write in a clear, “plain” style

**DO**
- The measured results matched all expectations.

**DON’T**
- The values, which were observed during the procedure of measuring, were surprisingly close to the physical quantities we anticipated by means of arithmetic computation.
Use consistent tenses

**DO**
- The kernel is an integral part of the operating system. It provides user programs with a non-hardware-specific environment. This allows modern programs to run on a large variety of different machines.

**DON’T**
- The kernel has always been an integral part of the operating system. It provides user programs with a non-hardware-specific environment. This is going to allow modern programs to run on a large variety of different machines.
Vary your sentence structure

**DO**
- Use an amperemeter to measure current A. Proceed by measuring voltage B by using a voltmeter. Finally determine the power with the help of a wattmeter.

**DON’T**
- Now use an amperemeter to measure current A. Now use a voltmeter to measure voltage B. Now use a wattmeter to measure power C.
Don’t use first person pronouns

DO
- It is obvious, that the sample size is large enough for meaningful statistical analysis.

DON’T
- You can see, that we used a large enough sample size, so we could do meaningful statistical analysis. For you. And your friends.
Do not use contractions

**DO**

- It is shown, that attending the lecture alone does not guarantee a good grade. On the contrary: Studying old exams works well, even if it should not.

**DON’T**

- It’s shown, that attending the lecture alone doesn’t guarantee a good grade. On the contrary: Studying old exams works well, even if it shouldn’t.
Do not use slang

**DO**
- This paper was written solely by the authors. All data is authentic and can be reproduced. Feel free to point out any mistakes that slipped through the thorough review.

**DON’T**
- We ain’t had no help writing this paper. No faking the snake, no lying. So if we botched it up, soz.
Use correct spelling and grammar

**DO**
- To compute the fast fourier transform with MatLab use the `fft` function. It requires a discrete signal as an input.

**DON’T**
- To compute the fast fourier transform with use of MatLab take the `fft` function. It requires an discret signal as a inputs.
Don’t use germanisms

**DO**
- U = 12.456V
- This is the key question, right?
- I’m done reading this book.
- I got a lot of information.
- If you translate a German sentence word by word you always end up with something stupid.

**DON’T**
- U = 12,456V
- This is the Keyquestion, yes?
- I’m through with this Book now.
- I did become a lot of Informations.
- When you translate a German sentence word by word comes always something stupid out.
Don’t use qualifiers

**DO**
- Just don’t use them.

**DON’T**
- Really
- Very
- Surely
- Often
- Hopefully
- Basically