

Preface

This book is intended for scientists and graduate students who need to write and publish scientific research. The contents of this book are based on the most current research published by experts who analyze the papers that scientists write—applied linguists, sociolinguists, geopolitical policy analysts, and bibliometricians, among others. In other words, the research presented here is not based on intuition; it is based on empirical investigations of why and how scientific research is written and published on a global scale. Every effort was made to eliminate technical jargon in order to produce a book that constitutes a practical and sound overview of scientific writing in the world today.

My personal motive for creating this book emerges from the dozen years I have spent working with scientists who need to publish their research in English. Their struggles, victories, and furtherance of their disciplines always inspire me. I feel a great gratitude to those men and women who have entrusted me with their manuscripts and their experiences. It is my great hope that, in some small way, this book can make writing and publishing more accessible and less frustrating to other novices, non-native-speakers of English and established scientists, from this time onward.

This book would not have been created without the initial encouragement of my colleague David Ian Hanauer. Our previous book “Scientific Writing in a Second Language” provided a basis for undertaking this project. I am invariably grateful for his scholarship and his humanity.

Finally, I wish to thank Javad Bourbour Shirazi, graduate student at York University, who has gone well beyond the bounds of all reasonable expectations in proofreading, formatting, and reference checking this entire manuscript. His dedication and scrupulous attention has made this a better book. Any errors, of course, remain mine.

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