

Research Skills, 2012, Exercise 3, part 1 – identifying errors in writing

The following is a 10-sentence summary of the paper that you read for Exercise 1. For each sentence, explain what is wrong. Some sentences have more than one error.

1. Galek and Nelson perform experiments on three sets of individuals to assess whether their theories about fluency are correct.
2. Three experiments will be performed.
3. The first experiment measures lay beliefs, number two considers reading goals and font readability, and the final experiment is concerned with facial feedback.
4. Graphical representations of aggregated data are presented to facilitate reader assimilation.
5. The results of the first experimental indicate that lay beliefs do affect how people perceive the text in that they will prefer a simpler ideal vocabulary and an easier read if they believe that they are reading for pleasure while they will expect a more complex ideal vocabulary and, possibly consequentially, a more difficult read if they believe that they are reading for information gathering purposes.
6. Second and third experiment demonstrate that manipulating secondary characteristic effects reader perception of fluency.
7. The conclusions are very clear.
8. Although the experiments did not have all the bells and whistles of some larger studies, they did produce significant results at the 95% confidence level.
9. Of course, it might possibly have helped if they had performed further comparison against Oppenheimer's (2006) work, but it is probably unnecessary for them to reinvent the wheel in this case.
10. I, myself, speaking personally, believe this paper is sufficiently good that a future researcher could base his work on its results.

Research Skills, 2012, Exercise 3, part 2 – edit to improve

Edit this 10-sentence extract to improve it. The flow of ideas in your edited version should be similar to the original. That is, each of the ten sentences in your edited version should have the same approximate meaning as the matching sentence in the original. As a concession on this strict rule, you may split a sentence or combine adjacent sentences where you think this necessary.

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