

## **Results**

Present and highlight data via text and graphics (figures, tables, etc.).

Condensed version of original data; only the absolute minimum data to tell the story.

Not interpretation (no discussion), but “objective” presentation.

Results: description of what you found, just the facts.

Discussion: interpretation of the meaning of what you found, your claim as to what the facts mean.

See p. 118, and also note “hedging” language when making claims.

Results and discussion format varies from journal to journal.

### 1. Blocked Results & Discussion

(used to be most common, has lost popularity because of disconnect and the need for additional connecting words)

[Results 1, Results 2, etc.],  
[Discussion 1, Discussion 2, etc.].

### 2. Iterative Results & Discussion

(now most common, each R and D connected)

[Results 1, Discussion 1],  
[Results 2, Discussion 2],  
etc.

### 3. Integrated Results & Discussion

(least common, hardest to do well)

Combined in a way to “best” (most efficient and effective) tell the story.

Few stories are a good fit for this approach.

## Practice Exercise 4.5, p. 119

## Move structure of Results section

Fig. 4.1, p. 120

1. Set the stage (transition the reader between previous sections and findings)

2. Tell the story (describe findings)

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1a. Remind reader of project methods

1b. Refer reader to figure/table

2a. Identify significant (main) finding

2b. Identify trend

2c. Identify unexpected finding

(Repeat moves 1 and 2 as necessary)

## **Set the stage**

If using a graphic (table, figure, etc.), refer to the graphic in the text before showing the graphic.

From Excerpt 4A:

“It was determined that the time to reach equilibrium between stationary phase and sample headspace was 90 min (Figure 3).”

(then Figure 3 appears afterward)

Also acceptable wordings,

Figure 3 shows that the time ... was 90 min.  
(then the figure)

As shown in Figure 3, the time ... was 90 min.  
(then the figure)

Other wordings also possible, but the requirement is that the graphic appears after the text that introduces the graphic.

## **Telling the Story**

Only include a graphic if it presents the result(s) better than words alone.

better = shows a finding more concisely, clearly or directly

A picture is worth a thousand words.

But want the picture to convey the correct meaning.

Practice Exercise 4.11 (a)-(d), pp. 126-127.