

Discussion

Move structure of Discussion section (Fig. 5.1):

1. Discuss specific results: remind and interpret.
2. Conclude with the big picture: summarize all results, and give take-home message(s) and broad implications.

Verb tense-voice choices (Table 5.1, p. 189):

The work that was completed during the study is done, over, in the past.

=> Use past tense, and passive or active voice.

The knowledge generated by the study is current, exists now, in the present.

=> Use present tense, and active voice.

“In this work, three Cr^{3+} *compounds were examined ...*”

“To further validate ..., *we tested* 15 additional compounds.”

“Our findings suggest that the surface properties ... change upon RAMEB addition.”

“The data ... are consistent with a wealth of evidence ...”

Practice Exercise 5.14, p. 187 for 2, 4, and 6.

Hedging

Not used for non-controversial points, such as simple statements of results.

“In sandy soils (S1-S4), the water sorption markedly increased, particularly at higher RAMEB doses ...”

Only for interpretations – the why and how of something.

“This *may be attributed* to water sorption by free RAMEB ...”

Practice Exercise 5.16, p. 191 (a) and (f).