Writing a manuscript

You should be thinking about this when you plan your experiments.

Clear question
(context of existing literature)

Methodology & Data analysis

Discussion
Why publish?

I worked hard to get the data!!

It cost a lot!!

It is new information!!

Originality:
An article should contain facts and new ideas, placed in a valid context.
Putting your work in context of current knowledge

However, do remember you are writing for your readers...not yourself.

1: Introduction
2: Methods
3: Results
4: Discussion
Introduction
- what is the larger framework: the context of your work with respect to current theories, hypotheses, etc in the literature
- what are your questions and hypotheses?

Don’t have an exhaustive review of the literature here, as you will end up duplicating much of it in the Discussion

Materials & Methods
Give a concise description of protocols, so the reader can
(i) properly evaluate your results and conclusions
(ii) repeat the work if they wish

- it is like a recipe
- avoid unnecessary information
- clearly explain the statistical tests used to analyse data.
Results

Give a clear and concise description of the findings you obtained

Results

Try to avoid lots of statistics in the text…

when possible include it in the figure legends or in tables

Results

Single heat exposure (% Survival)

Discussion

- this is the body of the paper

- explain the significance of the data obtained
Discussion
- do so within the context of existing literature
- do not hesitate to postulate new hypotheses, or speculate as long as it is reasonable

Discussion
- Do not repeat the data presented in the results
- Avoid repetition of statements in the introduction.

Figures & Legends
Stand alone: should be easy to grasp…… even if you do not have the text!!

Chemicals found in my study
Pesticide residues found in apples from four orchards in southern Ontario, where different programmes of pest control had been used.
References

Verify that the works cited in the text are also in the reference list …and vice versa

References


Get someone outside of your field to read it.

Check it over (several times) before you send it off!!
When density goes *threw* (through) rapid changes there is a great deal at *steak* (stake) and is most pronounced when the population is at its *peek* (peak).

Golden rice is a variety that has been genetically modified by inserting a gene of a microbe and a daffodil.

Golden rice is a variety that has been genetically modified by inserting genes from a microbe and a daffodil.
Where do you sent it?

Clearly, the scope of the paper will determine where you submit it for publication

Description of a new species in the Family Politicidae: *Fordus minicerebralis* found in Ontario

Description of a new species in the Family Politicidae: *Fordus minicerebralis* and a taxonomic revision of the Family that includes *Trumpus tweeteri*, *Macron yellowvestera* and *Mayus brexitium*
How does the the process work?

It will be reviewed by at least two external referees and an editor

Follow the guidelines of the journal when preparing the manuscript

- Accepted as is
- Minor revision
- Major revision
- Rejected
Minor revision

Minor editing
Add info to a section

Major revision

Methodology
Data analysis
Editing

You do not have to take all comments at face value