

EFFECTIVE SUB-EDITING ESSENTIAL

Busy researchers writing papers for conferences are all trying to convey their ideas as clearly as possible. But while their thoughts and reasoning may be orderly and concise, their papers often suffer from wordiness, poor grammar, and a host of other ills.

The ‘passive voice’ is often used by writers, but it usually obscures meaning. Another common mistake occurs when writers try to craftily and wittily split their infinitives.

A proceedings editor will usually have specific ideas about style. This style must be adhered to throughout the entire document. Numbers, names, dates, references and scientific notation must all be treated consistently.

And as for formatting, how often do you get tables or figures through that look something like this?

..... An exception to the rule

.....	it's	=it is
.....	its	=belonging to it

When they could look more like this:

An exception to the rule:

it's	=	it is
its	=	belonging to it

It's not neurosurgery, but does require concentration, a trained eye and attention to detail. If you need assistance massaging your copy into shape, please get in touch at info@intertext.co.nz