- 1. Why is using too much jargon/specialized terminology detrimental to your scientific writing?
- a. It can lower the citation rate of published research
- b. It prevents some readers from understanding your work
- c. It makes extra effort for your readers
- d. All of these are true
- 2. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "One of the potential environmental drivers of selected psychiatric conditions, such as seasonal affective disorder (SAD) and depression, are the annual and daily sunlight cycles, which drive the circadian clock."
- a. Noun cluster
- b. Pomposity/overly fancy language
- c. Separating the subject and verb
- d. Verb at the end
- e. Tense problems
- 3. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "The independent evolution of similar phenotypes between closely related or between distant evolutionary lineages, i.e. parallelism or convergent evolution, respectively has been interpreted as highlighting optimized solutions in response to natural selection exerted by similar environments."
- a. Jargon
- b. Starting a sentence in the middle of the idea
- c. Misplaced modifiers
- d. Faulty coordination (between clauses)
- e. Respectively
- 4. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "We performed a GWAS based on the differences of egg number between egg-type chickens and local chickens to explore the underlying molecular genetic mechanisms and identify egg number trait candidate genes."
- a. Noun cluster
- b. Jargon
- c. Misplaced modifiers
- d. Separating the subject and verb
- e. Verb at the end
- 5. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "Although thermodynamically uncoupled from the H+ gradient, it should be noted that PQLC2 is kinetically controlled by the V-ATPase since its transport activity requires an acidic lumen."
- a. Noun cluster
- b. Starting a sentence in the middle of the idea
- c. Faulty predication
- d. Respectively

- e. Tense problems
- 6. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "As an important source of animal protein, the consumption of poultry eggs worldwide has increased significantly over the past few decades."
- a. Jargon
- b. Misplaced modifiers
- c. Faulty coordination (between clauses)
- d. Separating the subject and verb
- e. Tense problems
- 7. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "Studies have suggested several major signaling pathways and molecular targets, including oxidative stress, metabolism dysfunction, and systemic inflammation modulation of aging and lifespan in a wide range of species from yeast to mammals."
- a. Misplaced modifiers
- b. Faulty predication
- c. Faulty coordination (between clauses)
- d. Separating the subject and verb
- e. Verb at the end
- 8. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "Our search conceived a spectrum chronicaling the collection, interpretation, and implementation of data in precision medicine. "
- a. Starting a sentence in the middle of the idea
- b. Overly complicated/fancy language
- c. Misplaced modifiers
- d. Faulty predication
- e. Verb at the end
- 9. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "The function of β -amyrin, a molecule that can serve as an intermediate in the synthesis of more complex triterpene glycosides associated with plant defense, is unknown."
- a. Noun cluster
- b. Starting a sentence in the middle of the idea
- c. Faulty predication
- d. Verb at the end
- e. Respectively
- 10. What about this sentence reduces its clarity? "In the fast-evolving field of gene editing using CRISPR/Cas9, crucial efforts to improve the efficiency of HDR have been made; but the reported success rates remained very low in many cell type and in vivo studies."
- a. Noun cluster
- b. Misplaced modifiers

- c. Faulty coordination (between clauses)
- d. Verb at the end
- e. Tense problems

Answer Key:

- 1. D
- 2. C
- 3. E
- 4. A
- 5. B
- 6. B
- 7. B
- 8. B
- 9. D
- 10. E