



WORKSHEET FOR WRITING WITH CLARITY

LEARNING OUTCOMES: RECOGNIZE COMMON ERRORS IN SENTENCES,
EXPLAIN WHY THEY ARE ERRORS, AND CORRECT THE ERRORS

FOR THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES OR PARAGRAPHS, IDENTIFY AND NAME THE
ERROR, AND REVISE THE SENTENCE TO MAKE IT BETTER.

Although these genes have not been very well studied in chickens, and their functions have not been fully elucidated, they provide a reference and idea to understand the molecular mechanism for tail length traits.

This sentence begins in the middle of the idea. It seems that the reference genes idea is most important in the sentence. "These genes provide a reference and idea to understand the molecular mechanism for tail length traits, although they have not been very well studied in chickens, and their functions have not been fully elucidated."

Most ice core microbiological studies have focused on microbial communities using culture-dependent and culture-independent methods.

The current version of this sentence makes the modifier "using culture-dependent and culture-independent methods" seem like it is modifying microbial communities. "Most ice core microbiological studies that have focused on microbial communities have used culture-dependent and culture-independent methods."



Spray droplet size, which is directly influenced by nozzle design, nozzle orifice size, operating pressure, and physicochemical properties of the solution, is often the focal point of particle drift mitigation efforts.

There is a long interruption between the subject (spray droplet size) and the verb (is). Making it into a compound sentence with the verb of the first independent clause earlier would be better: "Spray droplet size is directly influenced by nozzle design, nozzle orifice size, operating pressure, and physicochemical properties of the solution, and is often the focal point of particle drift mitigation efforts." It could also be made into two sentences.

Concurrent to terrestrial carbon storage, biochar produced from agricultural residues had the potential to yield renewable energy.

Since this sentence appears to be stating a current fact, the past tense 'had' should be made present tense, 'has'.

We visualized mitochondria by expressing green fluorescent protein (GFP) targeted to the outer mitochondrial membrane in worm body wall muscle cells.

The sentence ends with a noun cluster. Change it to 'muscle cells of the worm body wall'.

Microbial analyses and viral host predictions found that both microbial members within the genus *Methylobacterium* and their associated viruses were abundant in the two studied glacier ice samples.

This sentence has a faulty predication. Analyses and predictions are not capable of finding something. "By performing microbial analyses and viral host predictions, we found that both microbial members within the genus Methylobacterium and their associated viruses were abundant in the two studied glacier ice samples."



Ischemic strokes account for 87% of all strokes and are heterogeneous, multifactorial diseases comprising genetic and environmental contributions, but abnormal DNA methylation patterns have been implicated in a number of cardiovascular diseases.

This sentence has a faulty coordination, in that the second clause does not logically follow the first clause. The authors would need to add some text to bridge the gap.

These genes were classified by stage with 13, 27 and 44 genes showing a higher differential expression at stage 0, 1 and 3, respectively, and by sex with 46 and 38 genes showing a higher differential expression in females and males respectively.

Using respectively makes it hard to follow the details in this sentence. "These genes were classified by stage with a higher differential expression of 13 genes at stage 0, 27 genes at stage 1, and 44 genes at stage 3, and by sex with a higher differential expression of 46 genes in females and 38 genes in males." The revised version is only 4 words longer.

The trait values which individuals develop over the course of ontogeny can be affected by their own experiences earlier in life.

The use of the word ontogeny excludes many readers or sends them to a dictionary, thus I consider it to be jargon. The word could be replaced by 'over development' without losing any meaning.

The genome influences the maintenance of bone homeostasis by encoding many factors that modulate the differentiation and activities of bone cells.

The several abstract nouns in this sentence makes the language overly complicated. "Bone homeostasis is maintained by many genes and proteins that control bone cell activities and differentiation."



In the CK Lagoon, dense seagrass meadows and other aquatic macrophytes exist.

The verb occurs at the end of the sentence. moving the prepositional phrase "in the CK Lagoon" to after the verb "exist" would be better.