

Module 6: Writing a Research Paper


Topic 4 Content: Editing Your Research Paper

Introduction

Editing Your Research Paper

Introduction

In this interactivity, use the **NEXT** button or the numbered tabs to view a checklist of questions to ask yourself as you edit your research paper. The corresponding examples use **red text** to highlight the errors and **blue text** to indicate the corrections.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

In this interactivity, use the **NEXT** button or the numbered tabs to view a checklist of questions to ask yourself as you edit your research paper. The corresponding examples use **red text** to highlight the errors and **blue text** to indicate the corrections.

Module 6: Writing a Research Paper

Topic 4 Content: Editing Your Research Paper

Do you spell all of your words correctly?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do you spell all of your words correctly?

Check to make sure you spell all your words correctly.

Incorrect:
Scientists now know that pollution **definatly** contributes to coral bleaching.

Correct:
Scientists now know that pollution **definitely** contributes to coral bleaching.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you spell all your words correctly.

Incorrect:

Scientists now know that pollution **definatly** contributes to coral bleaching.

Correct:

Scientists now know that pollution **definitely** contributes to coral bleaching.

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Topic 4 Content: Editing Your Research Paper

Does each sentence have the appropriate punctuation mark?

Editing Your Research Paper

Does each sentence have the appropriate punctuation mark?

Check to make sure that each sentence has the appropriate punctuation mark.

Incorrect:
Policy makers are still asking what the implications of the research findings **are?**

Correct:
Policy makers are still asking what the implications of the research findings **are.**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure that each sentence has the appropriate punctuation mark.

Incorrect:

Policy makers are still asking what the implications of the research findings **are?**

Correct:

Policy makers are still asking what the implications of the research findings **are.**

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Does every sentence begin with a capital letter?

Editing Your Research Paper

Does every sentence begin with a capital letter?

Check to make sure that every sentence begins with a capital letter.

Incorrect:
the field of marine biology has advanced greatly due to Smith's contributions.

Correct:
The field of marine biology has advanced greatly due to Smith's contributions.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure that every sentence begins with a capital letter.

Incorrect:

the field of marine biology has advanced greatly due to Smith's contributions.

Correct:

The field of marine biology has advanced greatly due to Smith's contributions.

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Do you use commas correctly?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do you use commas correctly?

Check to make sure you use commas correctly.

Incorrect:
Coral reefs make up diverse **ecosystems, and** are under threat of extinction.

Correct:
Coral reefs make up diverse **ecosystems and are** under threat of extinction. (no comma needed)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you use commas correctly.

Incorrect:

Coral reefs make up diverse **ecosystems, and** are under threat of extinction.

Correct:

Coral reefs make up diverse **ecosystems and are** under threat of extinction. (no comma needed)

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Do you use apostrophes correctly to show possession?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do you use apostrophes correctly to show possession?

Check to make sure you use apostrophes correctly to show possession.

Incorrect:
Womens' volunteer efforts have made significant improvement in reef restoration.

Correct:
Women's volunteer efforts have made significant improvement in reef restoration.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you use apostrophes correctly to show possession.

Incorrect:

Womens' volunteer efforts have made significant improvement in reef restoration.

Correct:

Women's volunteer efforts have made significant improvement in reef restoration.

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Are the appropriate nouns capitalized?

Editing Your Research Paper

Are the appropriate nouns capitalized?

Check to make sure that appropriate nouns are capitalized.

Incorrect:
Some corals are able to adapt to cold **W**inter temperatures in **j**anuary and **f**ebruary.

Correct:
Some corals are able to adapt to cold **w**inter temperatures in **J**anuary and **F**ebruary.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure that appropriate nouns are capitalized.

Incorrect:

Some corals are able to adapt to cold **W**inter temperatures in **j**anuary and **f**ebruary.

Correct:

Some corals are able to adapt to cold **w**inter temperatures in **J**anuary and **F**ebruary.

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Do you misuse any commonly confused words?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do you misuse any commonly confused words?

Check to make sure you do *not* misuse any commonly confused words.

Incorrect:
Corals get **there** color primarily from the algae they consume.

Correct:
Corals get **their** color primarily from the algae they consume.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you do *not* misuse any commonly confused words.

Incorrect:

Corals get **there** color primarily from the algae they consume.

Correct:

Corals get **their** color primarily from the algae they consume.

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Topic 4 Content: Editing Your Research Paper

Do your subjects and verbs agree in number?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do your subjects and verbs agree in number?

Check to make sure your subjects and verbs agree in number.

Incorrect:
The carbon footprint resulting from a person's recreational activities **cause** harm to coral reefs.

Correct:
The carbon footprint resulting from a person's recreational activities **causes** harm to coral reefs.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure your subjects and verbs agree in number.

Incorrect:

The carbon footprint resulting from a person's recreational activities **cause** harm to coral reefs.

Correct:

The carbon footprint resulting from a person's recreational activities **causes** harm to coral reefs.

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Topic 4 Content: Editing Your Research Paper

Do your pronouns agree with their antecedents?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do your pronouns agree with their antecedents?

Check to make sure your pronouns agree with their antecedents.

Incorrect:
When a person uses sunscreen, **they** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

Correct:
When a person uses sunscreen, **he or she** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

Correct:
When people use sunscreen, **they** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure your pronouns agree with their antecedents.

Incorrect:

When a person uses sunscreen, **they** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

Correct:

When a person uses sunscreen, **he or she** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

Correct:

When people use sunscreen, **they** may not realize how damaging the chemicals are to marine life.

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Do you have any incomplete sentences?

Editing Your Research Paper

Do you have any incomplete sentences?

Check to make sure you do *not* have any incomplete sentences.

Incorrect:
The Great Barrier Reef **located** off the coast of Australia.

Correct:
The Great Barrier Reef located off the coast of Australia **is** the world's largest coral reef.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you do *not* have any incomplete sentences.

Incorrect:

The Great Barrier Reef **located** off the coast of Australia.

Correct:

The Great Barrier Reef located off the coast of Australia **is** the world's largest coral reef.

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Do you have any run-on sentences?

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Do you have any run-on sentences?

Check to make sure you do *not* have any run-on sentences.

Incorrect:
Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs, **unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

Correct:
Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs; **unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

Correct:
Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs. **Unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you do *not* have any run-on sentences.

Incorrect:

Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs, **unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

Correct:

Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs; **unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

Correct:

Nonprofit organizations have attempted to protect fragile reefs. **Unfortunately**, their efforts have not been effective.

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Do you have any misplaced modifiers?

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Do you have any misplaced modifiers?

Check to make sure you do *not* have any misplaced modifiers.

Incorrect:
Towing nets over reefs, corals are damaged by fishermen.

Correct:
Corals are damaged by fishermen **towing nets over reefs.**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Check to make sure you do *not* have any misplaced modifiers.

Incorrect:

Towing nets over reefs, corals are damaged by fishermen.

Correct:

Corals are damaged by fishermen **towing nets over reefs.**