



Science Writing Resources for Learning (scwrl.ubc.ca)

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Our Mission

- 1 Develop science-specific writing resources for students, and teaching guides, lessons and other materials for instructors
- 2 Teach students how to address specialist and non-specialist audiences (Via technical reports, blogs, oral presentations, podcasts, videos and newspaper-style articles)
- 3 Encourage students to think critically and develop logical argumentation skills, and persuade instructors to integrate science-specific writing assessments into their teaching
- 4 Evaluate the impact that our resources are having on student writing skills at UBC (SCIE 113 and SCIE 300)
- 5 Share all of our resources with students and instructors at other institutions across the globe via www.scwrl.ubc.ca

Resource Impact: In the Classroom

~ **700 UBC students** have now completed lessons and workshops as part of their undergraduate science degrees, focusing on:

- 1) Transitions and topic sentences, 2) Active vs. passive voice, 3) Numbers, units and abbreviations, 4) Descriptions
- 5) Succinct writing, 6) Journalistic writing, 7) Summarizing

These UBC Students said:

"... this is something that writing paper after paper would not have taught you. This is a way to open up science to a wider range of people, just by using simple, but clear comparisons."



"... all of the writing lessons have been so helpful and I will be saving all notes for future reference."

"... I am now better able to distill the essence of a paper in a simple, yet meaningful way. I can easily carry this over to all my courses."

Our Website - the ScWRL Resource Cache

www.scwrl.ubc.ca



Student Resources

- **23** science writing guides focusing on unique skills
- These span **5** categories (**Communicating Science, Sources, Grammar and Style, Writing Process, Learning Strategies**)
- **12** quick quizzes provide practice in specific skills
- **13** instructional Grammar Squirrel videos focusing on different science-specific writing topics
- All materials are freely available to students



Educator Resources

- **20** science writing guides focusing on **teaching** unique skills
- These span **2** categories (**Strategies for Teaching Writing, and Techniques for Grading**)
- **12** Lessons & Workshops (with marking guides) that can be implemented in science communication courses
- **1** best-practice teaching podcast (**4 more in production**)
- All materials are freely available but educators must **register** to gain access to marking guides



Grammar Squirrel and Her Writing Skills Videos (UBC Science Writing YouTube Channel)

13 instructional Grammar Squirrel videos featuring different science-specific writing topics

All on the **UBC Science Writing** YouTube channel and scwrl.ubc.ca

Guest appearances from **6** science writing experts

> **50,000** unique views

Incorporated into hands-on writing skills lessons and workshops at UBC

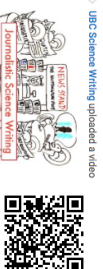


UBC students said:

"I LOVED them! They were a great resource. Keep making them!"

"I like how the videos are short and succinct and that the main points are recapped at the end."

"The visuals are really funny and help bring it to life. It's actually fun to learn some of this stuff!"



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a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA