THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Department of Information Engineering

Seminar

The Top Nine Writing Errors
That Cause Journal Rejection

by

Dr. Steve Wallace
Wallace Academic Editing

Date   :   **25 March, 2014 (Tue.)**
Time   :   **2:30pm – 4:30pm**
Venue :   **T.Y. Wong Hall, Ho Sin Hang Engineering Building**
            The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Abstract

We will introduce the nine most common mistakes Chinese researchers make in academic writing. We will start with statistics showing the breakdown of errors by category. These mistakes can lead to a reviewer recommending "major revision" or "rejection" of a well-researched paper. How can these errors be corrected? This speech will explain how to rewrite each sentence. Examples of each error are given along with corrections. At the conclusion, listeners will be able to avoid these common errors and greatly increase their chances of journal acceptance. The errors are as follows:

1. Overuse of the passive voice
2. Using nouns instead of verbs
3. Overusing weak verbs
4. Overusing sentences that begin with "It" or "There"
5. Using unclear pronoun references
6. Redundancy and unnecessary words
7. Using the inappropriate verb tense
8. Omitting comparisons
9. Subject and verb disagreement

Biography

Dr. Steve Wallace currently teaches at National Taiwan University, National Tsing Hua University, National Central University and Industrial Technology Research Institute, where he teaches classes in technical writing and conference presentations. His research is about how Taiwanese technical writers can publish more efficiently in international journals. He has collected dozens of editor and reviewer comments on rejected Taiwanese research papers and seeks to identify ways Taiwanese writers can improve their chances for acceptance.

Steve has written 13 textbooks used in 28 universities across Taiwan. He enjoys speaking about technical writing and has spoken at a number of Taiwanese universities, companies and research institutes about academic and technical writing. Steve has a background in Biology as well as an MBA. He completed his PhD in Technology Management. He has taught and edited in Taiwan for 8 years. He is now a permanent resident of Taiwan but still loves to travel and has been to 64 countries around the world. He incorporates experiences from his life and travel into his classroom discussions and enjoys interacting and hearing from students.

ALL ARE WELCOME