

本书是作者多年写作和修改 SCI 论文的经验总结，本书先整体概述了论文写作和发表的一般流程例如如何写好一篇稿件、稿件修改、选择期刊和投稿之后、审稿人评价稿件标准等内容，然后对稿件各部分如题目、摘要、简介、结果讨论等的撰写格式给出了具体建议和示例，后半部分对英文科技写作中的常用语法、常用词汇进行了具体剖析和举例，以切实提高读者的英文写作能力。

本书可供医学、药学、生物、化学、材料等专业的广大科研工作者、研究生参考使用。

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## 我们的烦恼

俊东是高我一级的学长，也是我的好朋友。记得当年在北医药学系读书时与俊东熟悉是在 1984 年暑假去山东的夏令营中，经过十几天的“同居”，我俩性格相近，又是山东同乡，自然就成了无话不谈的哥们。以后俊东和我先后在药学系不同的课题组读硕士，后来俊东考了个很高的 TOEFL 成绩去美国攻读博士学位去了，之后我们的联系也就少了！我在硕士二年级参加考试转博，博士毕业后就留校任教。从讲师、副教授到教授，2001 年被聘为博士生导师，按时晋升，没受到丝毫挫折。慢慢有了自己的课题组，招收了若干研究生，也在国内糖化学界有了一点知名度。和众多“海龟”相比，我应该算是“混”得好的“土鳖”了。“土鳖”们虽然生命力比较强，也服水土，但也有许多烦恼，缺钱、缺空间、招生名额太少等等，其中一个不大不小的烦恼是如何把自己的工作写成 SCI 文章并发表在相应档次的期刊上？

中国人学习英文应该是最认真、花费时间也最久的，但“实用性”却不理想。我们许多人就是这种“全民英语工程”的产品，语法很熟，词汇量也不小，对学生写出来的论文改了又改，但投出去在内容得到肯定后，经常会得到一句“The manuscript has language and grammar issues and would benefit from an editing in scientific English”的评价，这种情况一直伴随着我们，影响着论文发表的速度、档次，有时甚至会被拒稿。2008 年俊东回国探亲，我们又团聚了，了解到俊东在业余时间干了两件事。一是成立了一个专业的编译团队，帮助国内的学者修改、润色论文，并且成绩斐然。这对我简直是一个天大的喜事，解决了我们课题组的大问题。几年来在俊东及其团队的帮助下，我们组的 SCI 论文发表速度明显加快，档次稳步提升，数量也上来了，现在每年能在 20 篇以上。更重要的是，通过俊东的帮助，我和学生们在 SCI 论文的写作上也有了不小的收获，几名博士生通过修改、发表论文，写作水平得到提升，赴美留学后论文的撰写基本没有问题。

英文论文写作有它的规律和技巧，要达到专业的水平需要长期的训练和

时间，并不是语言好就一定能写出好文章，中文论文的写作也是同样的道理。我了解到许多“海龟”甚至我们眼中很高的“大牛”们其论文也要请外籍人士或专业编辑来修改。在国际上，请专业编辑人才修改英文写作是学术界已普遍接受的一个通常做法，这一点国内也逐渐在接受。

俊东做的另一件事是“著书立说”，他结合自己多年 SCI 论文写作和修改、润色的经验，写了这本“SCI 论文写作和发表：You Can Do It”。俊东是个学者，他的专业横跨了化学、药学和生物学，他做过研究，发过文章。从中国到美国的经历，他了解中国学者英文写作的瓶颈在哪里！除了帮助大家修改论文外，他还打算从年轻人的培养做起。现在国内的青年学生都有很好的英文水平，如果能有一本实用、针对性强的手册指导，借以时日，经过几轮实战的训练，定能写出与研究水平相当的 SCI 论文发表！

俊东做了一件十分有意义的事情！

李中军

2012 年 9 月 18 日于北大医学部

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# Introduction

I have been studying and working in U.S. for more than 20 years. Frequently, my friends in China have asked me to edit their manuscripts. It was these requests that prompted me to study scientific writing in more depth and to look into what was necessary for Chinese scientists to prepare their own manuscripts in professional English. It took me a long time to improve my own English writing skills, even though I had a very high TOEFL score when I was applying US universities. My initial training was from my postdoctoral advisor at MIT, the editor-in-chief of a renowned biology journal as well as the author of several textbooks. By studying his revisions of my own manuscripts, my scientific writing skills improved greatly.

English writing, like many other skills, is mastered by both learning and practice. I further improved my skills by reading many scientific writing books and journal articles, while always paying special attention to the writing. Editing manuscripts of fellow Chinese scientists and identifying the common mistakes provided me additional insight. I published a book 《Guide for Scientific Writing》 by Shandong University Press Co. in 2004 to summarize the key areas that I believe are essential for Chinese scientists to improve their scientific writing skills. To meet the requests for manuscript editing, I built a team of editors in the U.S. to offer editing service in 2006 ([www.sciwriting.cn](http://www.sciwriting.cn)). By 2012, we have edited more than 4500 manuscripts. Enriched by the editing experience and authors' feedback, I have revised my book to publish this new edition.

There are several obstacles Chinese scientists have to overcome. The first and most difficult one is the proper selection and usage of words. The poor writing of non-English speaking scientists can often be improved by developing knowledge of the subtle differences in the accurate use of words. Simple words are overused, and in many cases, the wrong words are used instead. The second obstacle is grammar and sentence flow. Scientific writing should meet the same standards for grammar as general writing while accommodating for the additional

rules of scientific writing. The sentence flow, which can be improved by the correct usage of connecting words, is critical for readers to understand the authors. The third obstacle is Chinese-English; English written as if literally translated from Chinese, including inappropriate expressions and improper grammar. While the author might not realize, a native speaker can notice it right away.

Writing a publishable manuscript is a difficult task; one which requires hard work and persistence. A manuscript written in proper English is the prerequisite for its acceptance for publication; however, the most critical criterion is still the contents of the manuscript, especially the novelty of your research finding. To write clearly the purpose of your study, what questions you want to answer or hypothesis to demonstrate, and the differences from the previous reports are the core of the paper. Without a proper understanding of the requirements for a publishable manuscript in SCI journals and the up to date knowledge of the literature in your research field, even the best writer still cannot publish a scientific paper. It takes a long time, the proper language environment, and tremendous efforts to master the skills of English writing; it seems to me it is a better way for scientists to focus on their science and ask professional editors to help with their English writing. It is a well-accepted practice in English-speaking countries to have professional editors to edit a manuscript or grant proposal. It is this need for English editors that is driving me to sharpen my own English writing skills, train other interested individuals, and provide professional service for the needed scientists.

I hope this book can find its role in helping to improve the English writing skills of young Chinese scientists. Thank you for reading.

**Dr. Jundong zhang**

**Aug. 2012**

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