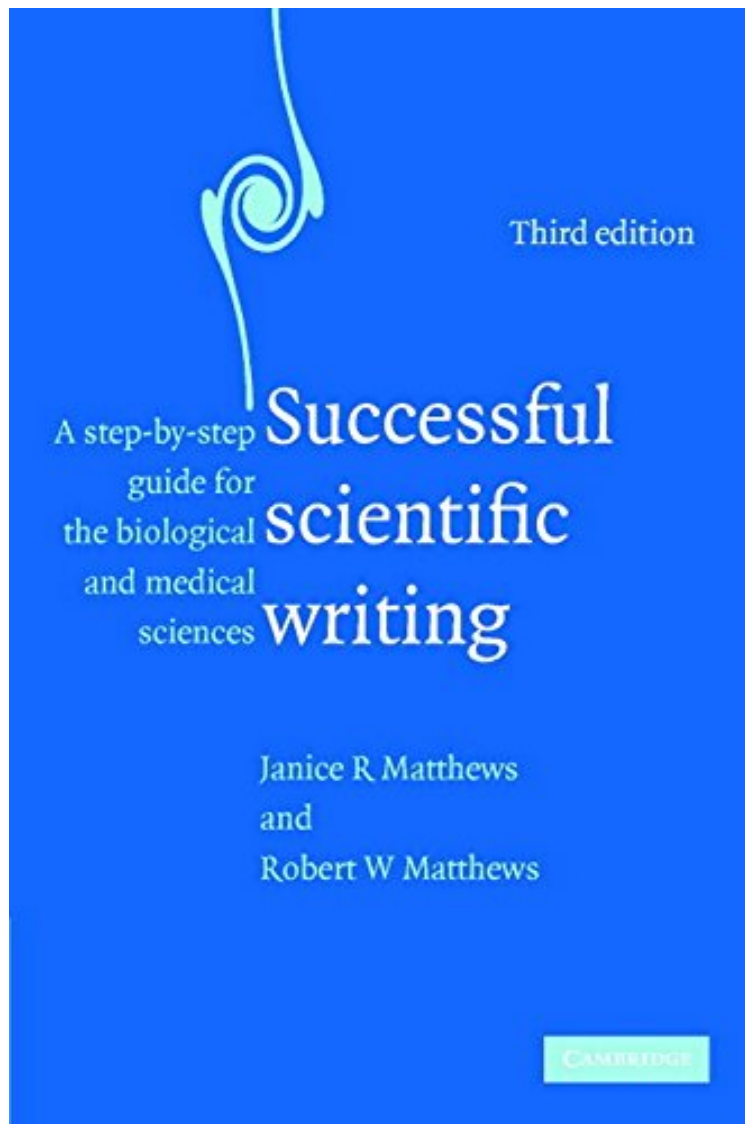


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## Successful Scientific Writing: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Biological and Medical Sciences

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**Janice R. Matthews, Robert W. Matthews : Successful Scientific Writing: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Biological and Medical Sciences** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Successful Scientific Writing: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Biological and Medical Sciences:

29 of 29 people found the following review helpful. Watch what you eat! By Donald F. Smith Words can hardly

express the beauty and cleverness of "Successful Scientific Writing" by Matthews, Bowen and Matthews as a step-by-step guide on how to write scientific reports for publication in English. I am using this book for a course that I teach on scientific writing at the Postgraduate School of Health Sciences at Aarhus University in Denmark, and I find it to be perfect! Before this book was published, there was none that dealt so well and so entertainingly with so many aspects of what it actually takes to prepare a manuscript for publication in a scientific journal. Many young (and old) scientists are good thinkers, but they are often poor writers! Thus, although they may have been able to design and carry out an experiment, they often lack the ability to express what they have done clearly and concisely. This book is for them! The first few chapters provide mainly words of encouragement for getting the writing process underway. There are also remarkable bits of advice, such as the notion of avoiding certain snacks that could derail one's momentum. In my view, the crux of the book appears in chapters 5, 6 and 7 in which extraordinarily lucid and practical instructions and exercises are presented for improving one's ability to write scientifically. There are also tips on how to optimize word-processing so that the manuscript submitted to the editor of a journal is most likely to be accepted for publication. Perhaps some old-timers in Science can do without this book, but they should nevertheless have a copy of it on hand for their students.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for Junior Graduate Students in the Sciences  
By Leah I am a senior graduate student in molecular biology and purchased this book in preparation for writing manuscripts and my dissertation. The book is very comprehensive and detailed. For me, it was a little too detailed in the wrong areas. I've done a lot of writing and I'm looking for more structural/insider tips as opposed to sentence structure and tense. The book covers grammar, delivering presentations, preparing figures, etc over several chapters. The sections on actually writing and publishing your manuscript are covered in two shorter chapters -- if you need more guidance here, consider looking elsewhere. I'm looking to convince my audience and develop strong arguments and I didn't find it in this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good for medical, and other non-psychological scientific writing.  
By CSSW This book is good (and was used in a small course I took) for medical writing, but I gave it four stars because writing in psychological science is less like medical writing...we tend to reach for the thesaurus, rather than make it a goal to repeat the same words over and over...which is encouraged in medical writing (and in this handbook). Still, excellent tips and a good way to brush up on writing.

The detailed, practical, step-by-step advice in this user-friendly guide will help students and researchers to communicate their work more effectively through the written word. Covering all aspects of the writing process, this concise, accessible resource is critically acclaimed, well-structured, comprehensive, and entertaining. Self-help exercises and abundant examples from actual typescripts draw on the authors' extensive experience working both as researchers and with them. Whilst retaining the user-friendly and pragmatic style of earlier editions, this third edition has been updated and broadened to incorporate such timely topics as guidelines for successful international publication, ethical and legal issues including plagiarism and falsified data, electronic publication, and text-based talks and poster presentations. With advice applicable to many writing contexts in the majority of scientific disciplines, this book is a powerful tool for improving individual skills and an eminently suitable text for classroom courses or seminars.

'This book is beyond reproach and should be regarded as compulsory reading for all biomedical and science undergraduate and postgraduate students and all others likely to have to write or edit scientific reports.' The Times Higher Education Supplement'... very well organized and easy to scan for useful tips ... will soon become one of the more well-thumbed volumes on our laboratory bookshelf.' Trends in Neuroscience'... pragmatic, well-written and comprehensive ... each stage - from marshalling ideas through bashing out a first draft, revising it, honing it for publication and correcting it in proof - is demystified with exercises and examples.' New Scientist'...does not disappoint. It is everything a 'How to' book needs to be, stuffed with plain common sense and sprinkled with useful tips.' The Biologist'... strongly recommended for all geoscientists. There are three possible ways to use it. The first is to read it as a normal book from the first page to the last ... The second way is to use it as a reference ... The third way is ... as a textbook ... Despite of what way to choose, you will find this book always very suitable. Reading of any passage is enjoyable and stimulating. The book in the whole is a great success ...'

Zentralblatt für Geologie und Paläontologie  
About the Author  
Janice Matthews is a scientist, writer, and educator with a broad background in the biological sciences and a professional focus on facilitating clearer communication of scientific material. She has written and edited books, technical manuals, and hundreds of scientific research papers in the veterinary and biological sciences, both in university settings and for private industry. Robert W. Matthews is a Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia. An insect behavior specialist, his scientific publications number over 165 research articles. The two scientists have collaborated in entomological field studies in Australia, South and Central America, and the U.S.A. and have co-authored a number of technical and popular articles and books. They have six grown children and a Labradoodle.