

A. Describing the scope of a current project or prior research

Purpose	Original Word/Phrase	Recommended Substitute
<p>To express the purpose of a paper or research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This paper/ study/ investigation... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aims to 	<p>This paper + [use the verb that originally followed “aims to”] or This paper + (any other verb listed above as a substitute for “explain”) + who/what/when/where/how X. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “This paper applies X to Y,” instead of, “This paper aims to apply X to Y.” “This paper explores how lower sun exposure impacts moods,” instead of, “This paper aims to address the impact of lower sun exposure on moods.”
<p>To introduce the topic of a project or paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The paper/ study/ article/ work... Prior research/ investigations... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> discusses presents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> surveys questions highlights outlines features investigates
<p>To describe the analytical scope of a paper or study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The paper/ study/ article/ work... Prior research/ investigations... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considers analyzes explains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> evaluates interprets clarifies identifies delves into advances appraises defines

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dissects probes tests explores <p>*Adjectives to describe degree can include: briefly, thoroughly, adequately, sufficiently, inadequately, insufficiently, only partially, partially, etc.</p>
<p>To preview other sections of a paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section X... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> covers deals with talks about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlines highlights sketches assesses contemplates <p>[any of the verbs suggested as replacements for “explain,” “analyze,” and “consider” above]</p>

B. Outlining a topic’s background

Purpose	Original Word/Phrase	Recommended Substitute
<p>To discuss the historical significance of a topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject/ Mechanism... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plays an important in [nominalization] plays a vital role in [nominalization] 	<p>Topic significantly/considerably +</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> influences controls regulates directs inhibits constrains governs

		<p>+ who/what/when/where/how...</p> <p>*In other words, take the nominalized verb and make it the main verb of the sentence.</p>
<p>To describe the historical popularity of a topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X Theory... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ...is widely accepted as... • ...is widely used as... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widely accepted, ... [to eliminate the weak <i>be</i> verb] • The preferred... • Commonly/Frequently implemented,... [to eliminate the weak <i>be</i> verb] • The prevailing method for...
<p>To describe the recent focus on a topic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much attention has been drawn to • ...has gained much importance in recent years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions regarding X have dominated research in recent years. • ...has appealed to... • ...has propelled to the forefront in investigations of Y. • ... has dramatically/significantly shaped queries on X in recent years. • ...has critically influenced academic dialogue on Y.
<p>To identify the current majority opinion about a topic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consensus has been that... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior research generally confirms that... • Several studies agree that... • Prior research substantiates the belief that...

<p>To discuss the findings of existing literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous studies... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indicate • have documented • have demonstrated • have shown that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contend • purport • suggest • proffer • have proven that • evidence
<p>To express the breadth of our current knowledge-base, including gaps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much is known about... • But, little is known about... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academic community has extensively explored X... • Prior research has thoroughly investigated.... • However, little research has been conducted to show... • However, prior studies have failed to evaluate/ identify / (any other word suggested to replace “analyze” above)
<p>To segue into expressing your research question</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several theories have been proposed to explain... • To solve this problem, many researchers have tried several methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent/Previous studies have promoted... • Prior investigations have implemented/ queried diverse approaches to... • A number of authors have posited...

C. Describing the analytical elements of a paper

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<p>To express agreement between one finding and another</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper/ study/ investigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • substantiates • confirms • corroborates • underlines
<p>To present contradictory findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper/ study/ investigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • calls into question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenges • disputes • rebuts • refutes • disproves • debunks • invalidates • rejects • questions
<p>To discuss limitations of a study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The limitations of this paper include: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These investigations, however, disregards... • This method/ approach fails to... • This study only... • ...falls short of addressing/ identifying / illustrating... • A drawback/disadvantage of this framework is... • This framework, however, solely pertains to...

Source: 100+ Strong Verbs That Will Make Your Research Writing Amazing

<https://blog.wordvice.com/recommended-verbs-for-research-writing/>

