

Impressive Verbs to use in your Research Paper

The following section lists certain verbs that are useful in academic writing, especially, in research papers. It also includes easy tips you can employ while selecting your verbs.

Purpose	Verbs
To show analysis	analyse, appraise, define, diagnose, explore, identify, investigate, observe
To summarize	assess, conclude, feature, highlight
To indicate control (to be stable or to maintain at a level)	constrain, control, govern, influence, inhibit, limit, maintain, prohibit, regulate, secure
To discuss findings	attest, confirm, contend, demonstrate, document, indicate, reveal
To state	comment, convey, elaborate, establish, identify, propose
To show increase	advance, development, enlarge, exceed, extend, facilitate, improve, increment, maximize
To show decrease	alleviate, cease, decline, depress, descent, deteriorate, minimize, subside, reduce
To show change	alter, accommodate, difference, evolve, fluctuate, generate, transform, transition, vary
To indicate information in a figure	depict, display, illustrate, portray, reveal
To indicate information in a table	classify, enumerate, gives, lists, presents, summarizes
To stress that a task has been performed in-depth	adequately, comprehensively, exhaustively, extensively, thoroughly

Purpose	Verbs
To show parts	comprises, compose of, constitutes, encompasses, includes, incorporates
To indicate negative stand	challenge, contradict, disagree, dispute, reject, question
To indicate positive stand	confirm, compliment, corroborate, substantiate, support, uphold, validate, verify
To show approximation	approximate, estimate, resemble, predict
<p><i>*Note:</i> <i>The verbs listed under each category are NOT synonyms and are different based on context. Please ensure that the selected verb conveys your intended meaning.</i> <i>Please be sure to use the American (analyze) or British (analyse) English version of the word based on your language of choice.</i></p>	

Tip 1: Phrasal verbs

It is human nature to write the way we think or speak of a certain thing. These constitute phrasal verbs, such as “find out”, “break down,” “put up,” or “warm up.” Substitute them with more formal counterparts, such as “discover”, “disintegrate,” “assemble,” and “heat.”

Tip 2: Extraordinarily remarkable versus impressive

The aim is to use formal words. However, the meaning should not be overpowered by complicated words. Use powerful, but clear words.

Tip 3: Adverbs

Although not verbs, the adverbs you select also decide how effective your verbs are. Avoid the use of “very” or “quickly”. Use formal substitutes like “substantially” or “rapidly”.

Tip 4: Reporting verbs

In academic writing, it is important to use the correct tone. Often, we want to report a finding strongly, while other times, adopting a tentative or neutral tone is better. In such cases, carefully select the reporting verb based on your intention. Some examples are: tentative (hypothesise, imply, suggest), neutral (note, interpret, discuss, reflect, observe), strong (establish, disregard, highlight, recommend).

Tip 5: ~~Don't~~ Do not use contractions

Avoid the use of contractions such as “isn’t,” “won’t,” or, as striked in the subheading, “don’t.” This makes your language look informal. Use expanded forms, such as “is not”, “will not,” or “do not.”

Source: Impressive Verbs to use in your Research Paper

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