

Mini-dictionary

Verbs to Describe Research

Access	Correlate	Implement	Persuade
Achieve	Create	Improve	Plan
Acquire	Critique	Influence	Point out
Adjust	Cut	Inform	Prepare
Adopt	Debug	Initiate	Prescribe
Advance	Decide	Innovate	Prioritize
Advise	Demonstrate	Inspect	Probe
Align	Describe	Inspire	Process
Allocate	Design	Install	Produce
Analyze	Detail	Institute	Project
Apply	Determine	Integrate	Propose
Appraise	Develop	Interpret	Pull
Approve	Devise	Invent	Re-organize
Argue	Diagnose	Investigate	Recommend
Arrange	Direct	Isolate	Reconfigure
Assemble	Discover	Justify	Record
Assign	Employ	Lay Out	Redesign
Assume	Enable	Lead	Reduce
Authorize	Enforce	Learn	Refer
Advance	Engineer	Lend	Relate
Build	Establish	Load	Repair
Calculate	Estimate	Maintain	Report
Calibrate	Evaluate	Manage	Represent
Check	Examine	Map	Research
Clarify	Experiment	Modify	Resolve
Classify	Explain	Monitor	Respond
Collect	Express	Motivate	Retain
Commit	Extract	Mount	Retrieve
Compare	Extrapolate	Negotiate	Review
Compile	Facilitate	Note	Revise
Compute	Find	Observe	Schedule
Communicate	Forecast	Offer	Select
Conceive	Formulate	Operate	Set Up
Conduct	Foster	Organize	Shape
Configure	Gather	Overcome	Show
Construct	Generate	Paint	Simplify
Consult	Guide	Participate	Sketch
Control	Identify	Perceive	Solve
Coordinate	Imagine	Perform	Speak

Stimulate
Study
 Substantiate
Suggest

Survey
 Synthesize
 Tailor
 Test

Transform
 Understand
Use
Utilize

Validate
 Verify
 Write

Verbs to Describe Tables and Figures

In technical writing it is appropriate to use the active form of these verbs (“demonstrates”) instead of the passive form (“demonstrated in”).

contains
 demonstrates
 depicts
 displays
 exposes
 gives

illustrates
 indicates
 lists
 presents
 provides
 reports

reveals
 shows
 suggests
 summarizes

Linking Independent Clauses

Purpose	Link
Add	furthermore in addition moreover
Backtrack	however nevertheless yet
Connect	therefore as a result consequently hence thus
Clarify	in other words that is i.e.
Contrast	in contrast however on the other hand conversely on the contrary
Exemplify	for example for instance
Intensify	as a matter of fact in fact

Linking a Dependent Clause to a Main Clause

Purpose	Link
Backtrack	although even though
Connect	because since
Contrast	while whereas

Linking a Noun Phrase

Purpose	Link
Add	in addition to
Backtrack	in spite of
Connect	because of due to as a result of
Contrast	unlike

Latin Expressions

Expression	Abbreviation	Meaning
<i>a posteriori</i>		after
<i>a priori</i>		before
<i>ad hoc</i>		improvised, for the specific occasion
<i>ad infinitum</i>		without end
<i>ad lib</i>		at will, off the top of the head
<i>ante meridiem</i>	<i>am</i>	before noon
<i>circa</i>	<i>ca.</i>	approximately
<i>confer</i>	<i>cf.</i>	compare

<i>de facto</i>		existing by fact, not by right
<i>errata</i>	<i>errata</i>	errors
<i>et alii</i>	<i>et al.</i>	and others
<i>et cetera</i>	<i>etc.</i>	and other things
<i>exempli gratia</i>	<i>e.g.</i>	for example
<i>ibidem</i>	<i>ibid.</i>	in the same place (same as the previous reference)
<i>id est</i>	<i>i.e.</i>	that is
<i>in memoriam</i>		in memory of a person
<i>in situ</i>		in its original place
<i>infra</i>	<i>infra</i>	below
<i>loco citato</i>	<i>loc. Cit.</i>	in the place cited
<i>nota bene</i>	<i>N.B.</i>	note well (take note)
<i>opere citato</i>	<i>op. cit.</i>	in the work cited
<i>passim</i>	<i>passim</i>	here and there (the point is made in several places)
<i>per capita</i>		per person
<i>post meridiem</i>	<i>pm</i>	after noon
<i>post scriptum</i>	<i>P.S.</i>	after writing (something added after the signature)
<i>pro rata</i>		in proportion
<i>quod erat demonstrandum</i>	<i>q.e.d.</i>	what was to be demonstrated
<i>sic</i>	<i>sic</i>	thus (the error is in the original quote)
<i>videlicet</i>	<i>viz.</i>	obviously (namely)

Versions of English

There exist differences between the English that is used in Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, the United Kingdom (British English), and the United States of America (American English). One difference in punctuation is mentioned earlier; in North America the closing quotation mark encloses the punctuation that may appear at the end of the quoted material (like “this.”). The opposite is done elsewhere (like “this.”) There are also differences in the spelling of some words, like “colour” and “color.” Canadian English, which is a mix of British English and American English, is adopted in these documents. The following table contrasts the Canadian and American English:

Canadian English	American English
behaviour	behavior
centre	center
colour	color
defence	defense
fibre	fiber
grey	gray
honour	honor
modelling	modeling
neighbour	neighbour

Some words have alternative spellings in Canadian English, including the following:

acknowledgment	acknowledgement
aging	ageing
among	amongst
analyze	analyse
catalyze	catalyse
judgment	judgement
license	licence
practise	practice
specialty	speciality

Some words have alternative spellings in other versions of English, but not in Canadian English. These words include analogue, which is spelled analog elsewhere.