

Notes on Assignment 2

Miscellaneous

Most university students, especially those who don't major in science, will only have limited time for one science course
 Most university students, especially those who do not major in science, will have only limited time for one science course

And the student would feel the material is interesting if the teacher is enthusiastic on what they are teaching.
 In addition, if the teacher is enthusiastic about the material, the student will find the material interesting.
 In addition, the teacher's enthusiasm would ignite the student's interest.

It and This

It is easy to agree with this article
 Agreement with this article is easy.
 I agree with this article.

The lectures gives students an opportunity to talk to the professor and to ask questions. It is not possible when studying from on line resources.
 The lecture gives students an opportunity to talk to the professor and to ask questions, which is not possible when studying from on line resources.
 The lecture gives students an opportunity to talk to the professor and to ask questions, which they cannot do when they study online.

It is often the case that students take a very passive attitude, as if they were watching television.
 Students are often passive, as if they were watching television.

Miscellaneous

I did not find anything new in the interactive lecture ; old wine in a new bottle.
 I did not find anything new in the interactive lecture : old wine in a new bottle.

Powell attributed the failing of nowadays' science lectures to its large size.
 Powell attributes the failing of today's science lectures to their large size.

To conclude, the article only describes two cases where innovative teaching is being tested.
 To conclude, the article describes only two cases where innovative teaching is being tested.

Basic materials including illustrations and animations are available online, and, class time is more focused on interactive discussions.
 Basic materials, including illustrations and animations, are available online, and more class time can be focused on interactive discussions.

Redundant words plus

For example, some advanced physics courses involve much math like quantum field theory .
 For example, some physics courses use much mathematics like quantum field theory .
 For example, some physics courses , like quantum field theory , use advanced mathematics.
 For example, some physics courses use advanced mathematics .

I either try to change the subject, or nod my head, acting like I agree with them.
 I either try to change the subject, or nod my head, acting as if I agree with them.
 I try to change the subject, or nod my head, acting as if I agree.

Powell admits, early in the article , that educational institutes in many countries are facing similar issues - large class sizes and lack of interactivity - but states that the problems in the US are 'particularly tough' without justification.
 Powell admits that educational institutes in many countries are facing similar issues - large class sizes and lack of interactivity - but states without justification that the problems in the US are 'particularly tough'.

Redundant words

In his article , Kendall Powell states that most US research universities don't gain much success in providing their students with good science classes [Powell, 2003].
 In this article, Kendall Powell [Powell, 2003] states that most US research universities fail to provide their students with good science classes.

Although quite a few professors claim success,
 Although many professors claim success,

Overall, I agree with Kendall's opinion.
 I agree with Kendall.

From my personal experience, I think the method works well.
 From my experience , I think the method works well.
 In my experience, the method works.

The authors performed interviews with former science students ...
 The authors interviewed former science students ...

Adverbs plus

As a result, many of the students do not learn the scientific basics very well. This is an important concern.

As a result, many students do not learn the scientific basics well.
Thus many students do not learn the scientific basics.

This is a much better technique than me providing them with the solution.
This is a better technique than my providing them with the solution.
My providing them with the solution works less well.

Although quite a few professors claim success,
Although many professors claim success,

For instance, using visual aids such as PowerPoint is very helpful.
For example, visual aids, such as PowerPoint, are helpful.

Abbreviations

This conclusion is based on assessment tools whose reliability hasn't been proved.
This conclusion is based on assessment tools whose reliability has not been proved.
This conclusion is based on assessment tools of unproven reliability.

math, didn't, hasn't, won't, can't...
mathematics, did not, has not, will not, cannot ...

All acronyms, GPS, CAT, NSERC, BPH, BCS, must be defined IN WORDS when they are first introduced.

e.g. Our funding is provided by NSERC (the National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada).

Ideal Starters

Kendall Powell in his article "Spare me the lecture" (Nature, 425, p.234) discusses how the new methods of teaching help to improve students' performance in introductory science classes.

Kendall Powell's article, "Spare me the lecture", asserts that science education at the university level has a poor reputation in the United States.

Kendall Powell, in "Spare me the lecture" (Nature, 425, p.234), asserts that science education at the university level has a poor reputation in the United States.

George Orwell's Linguistic Pitfalls.

- Never use a metaphor, simile, or other figure of speech that you are used to seeing in print.
- Never use a long word when a short one will do.
- If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.
- Never use the passive, where you can use the active.
- Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word when you can think of an everyday English equivalent.
- Break any of these rules sooner than say anything outright barbarous

IF TWO OR MORE GRAMMATICALLY COMPLETE
CLAUSES ARE TO FORM A SINGLE COMPOUND
SENTENCE, USE A SEMI-COLON.

(TEST – COULD THE TWO OR MORE
CLAUSES BE COMPLETE SENTENCES?)

AFTER AN INDEPENDENT CLAUSE USE A COLON TO
INTRODUCE
A LIST, AN AMPLIFICATION, AN INTERPRETATION,
OR A QUOTATION.