

Before we start...

Please put Tables and Graphs for LTP at the [end of the document](#). Don't integrate them in the text.

Form for Tables and Figures

- Both tables and figures are numbered, and both have brief, informative titles that aren't sentences.
- The title appears [above a table](#) and [under a figure](#) - **NOT IN THE FIGURE ITSELF or BELOW THE TABLE.**
- There are only "tables" and "figures," not "graphs, charts, or illustrations."

Figure Captions

Dodd, Janet S. *The ACS Style Guide: A Manual for Authors and Editors*.
2nd ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1997. ISBN: 0841234620.

Figure Captions (continued)

Please do not begin captions with:

- “In this table...”
- “In this graph...”
- “This graph shows...”
- “This table shows...”

Meeting 4: Results

What is the **Content** of the Results Section?

Begin with a few sentences about the:

- Experiments and main findings to orient the reader
- Provide the reader with a sense of the scope of the results section.

Then report the results of your experiments in past tense.

What is the **Content** of the Results Section?^(continued)

Report **only meaningful data** (not all of it).

Report data in **figures or text** but not both (although all illustrations must be mentioned in the text).

Use **Subheads** to Break your Results Section into Logical Portions

Use subheads to:

Provide **advance organization**.

Allow readers to **skip** some sections or **zero in** on one they're interested in.

Subheads can correspond to those in Methods Section, but usually benefit from a different organization.

e.g., **Begin with your most important findings**.

What **Differentiates** Methods and Results Sections?

Methods = HOW the data were accumulated.

Results = WHAT data were accumulated.

What **Differentiates** Results and Discussion Sections?

Results = Data PRESENTATION.

Discussion = Data INTERPRETATION.

What are Some Qualities of a Well-Written Results Section?

Results focus on the paper's hypotheses.

Methods and results sections should correspond (no results without methods and vice versa).

Results are presented in a logical (not chronological) order.

Opening sentences to each subsection orient the reader to the data that follow.

Example, Lupus Paper

Arbuckle, Melissa R. "Development of Autoantibodies before the Clinical Onset of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus." *The New England Journal of Medicine* 349, no.16 (October 16, 2003): 1526-1533.

Example

Rosenfeld, Jill. "HeT-A and TART localization and interaction with CSN6 in *Drosophila melanogaster* cells." *MIT Biology Undergraduate Journal* 5, 2002.

Example

Cusano, Natalie. "Use of Organelle Trackers in *Drosophila melanogaster* Schneider 2 Cells to Study Localization of the Zinc Knuckle and Leucine Zipper Domains of HeT-A Gaq." *MIT Biology Undergraduate Journal* 5, 2002.

What are Some Pitfalls of a Results Section?

Including methods and/or discussion in the results section.

Overlap is acceptable in some circumstances.

Opening with weak or uninformative sentences.

Overstating the results (e.g., Figure 1. clearly shows...")

Reporting irrelevant results

Although it is sometimes useful to report experiments that didn't work.

Omitting visual organizers (e.g., subheads).

Today's In-Class Exercise

Out-of-Class Exercises

Write a critique of the NEJM article about air travel and pulmonary embolism posted on the 7.02 web page

Write the results section for your long-term project. **Revise prior sections as needed**

Prepare oral presentations