



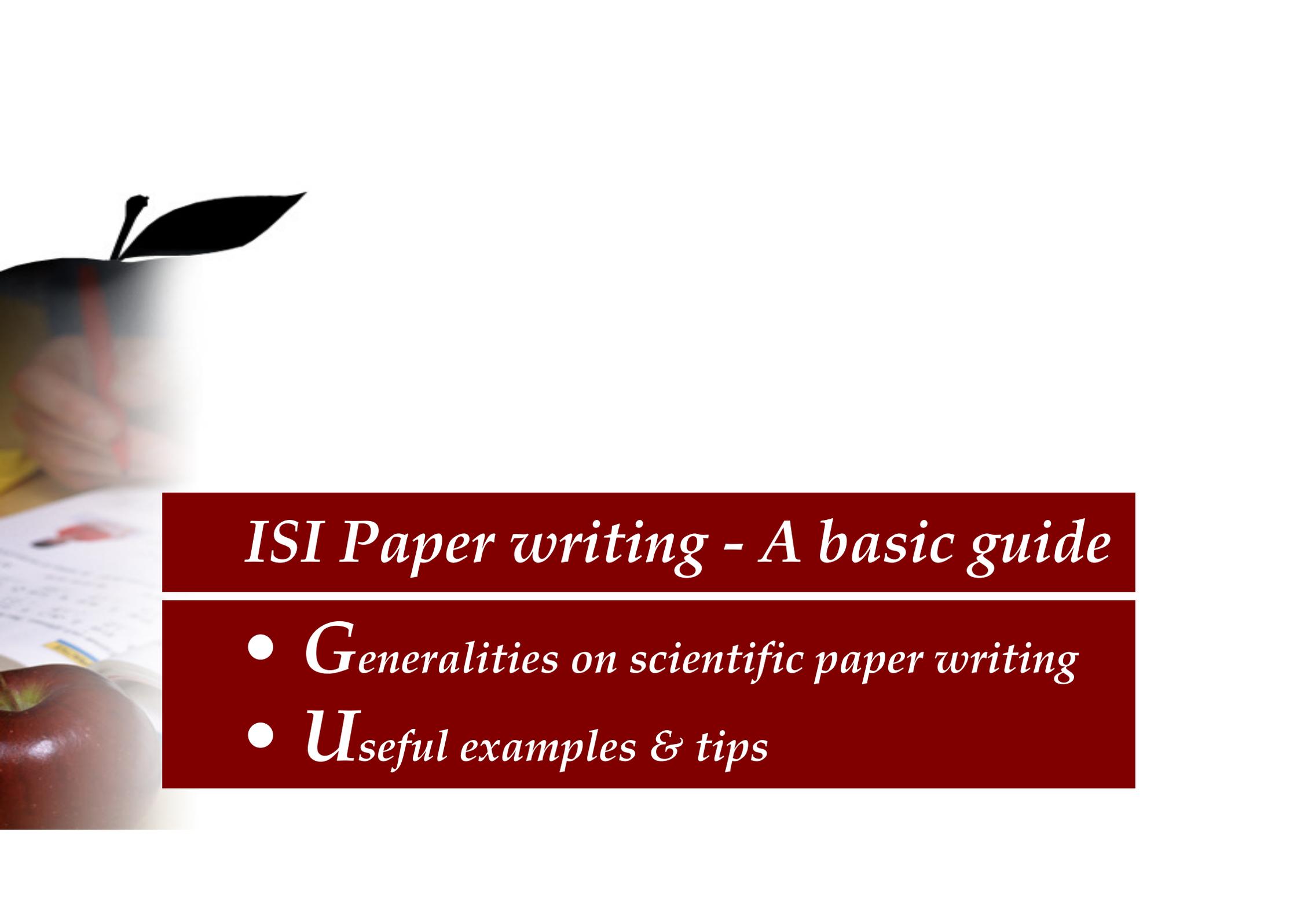
# *Inițiere în elaborarea lucrărilor ISI*



***Prof. Romeo T. Cristina***

*SDMV Timișoara*

*See: [www.veterinarypharmcon.com](http://www.veterinarypharmcon.com)*



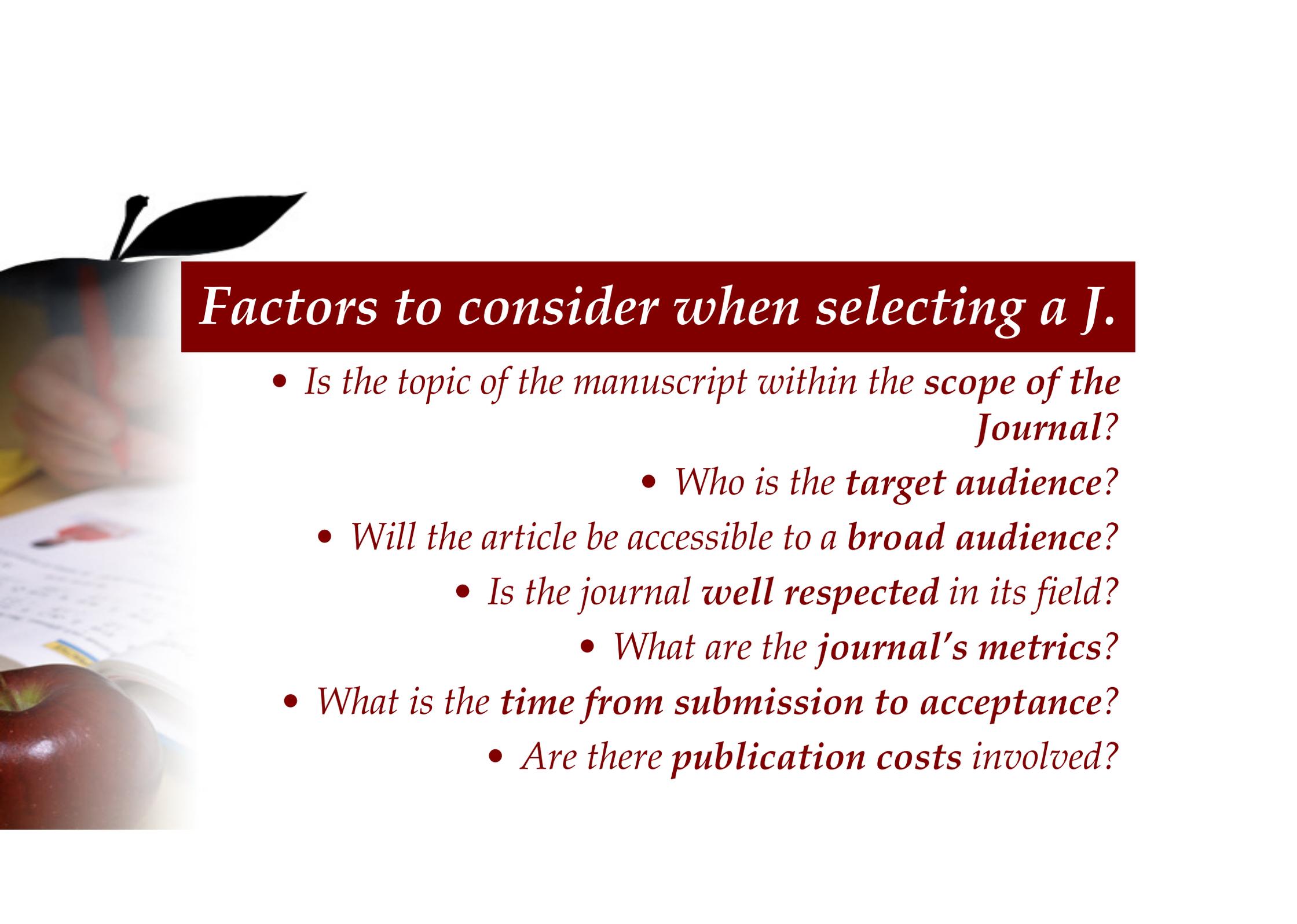
## *ISI Paper writing - A basic guide*

- *Generalities on scientific paper writing*
- *Useful examples & tips*



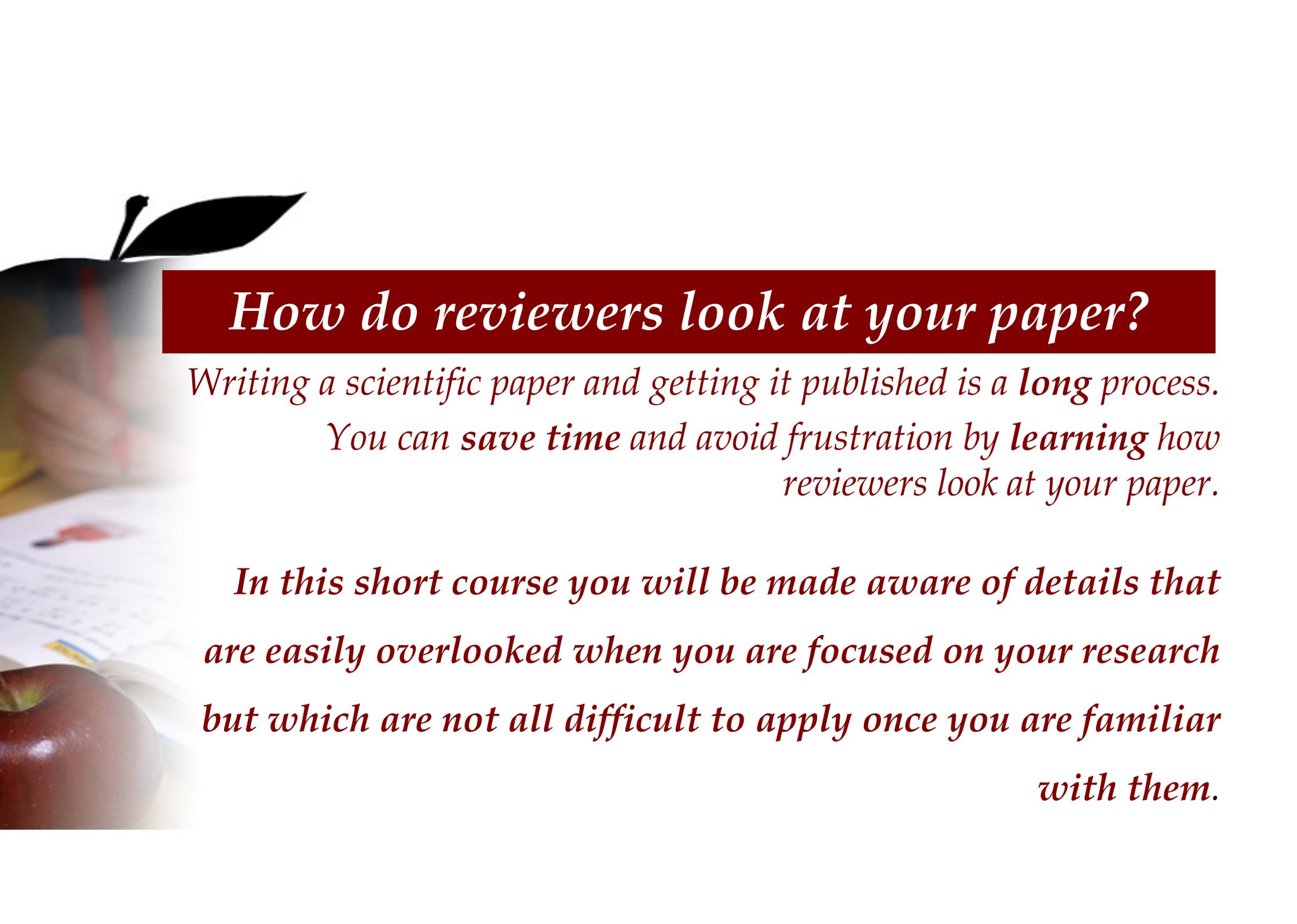
## *Preamble*

- *It is essential that authors write and prepare their manuscripts according to instructions of a Journal!*
- *Authors are strongly encouraged to know these instructions before preparing a valuable and publishable manuscript for submission, and to check their manuscript for conformance before submitting it .*



## *Factors to consider when selecting a J.*

- *Is the topic of the manuscript within the scope of the Journal?*
  - *Who is the target audience?*
- *Will the article be accessible to a broad audience?*
  - *Is the journal well respected in its field?*
    - *What are the journal's metrics?*
- *What is the time from submission to acceptance?*
  - *Are there publication costs involved?*

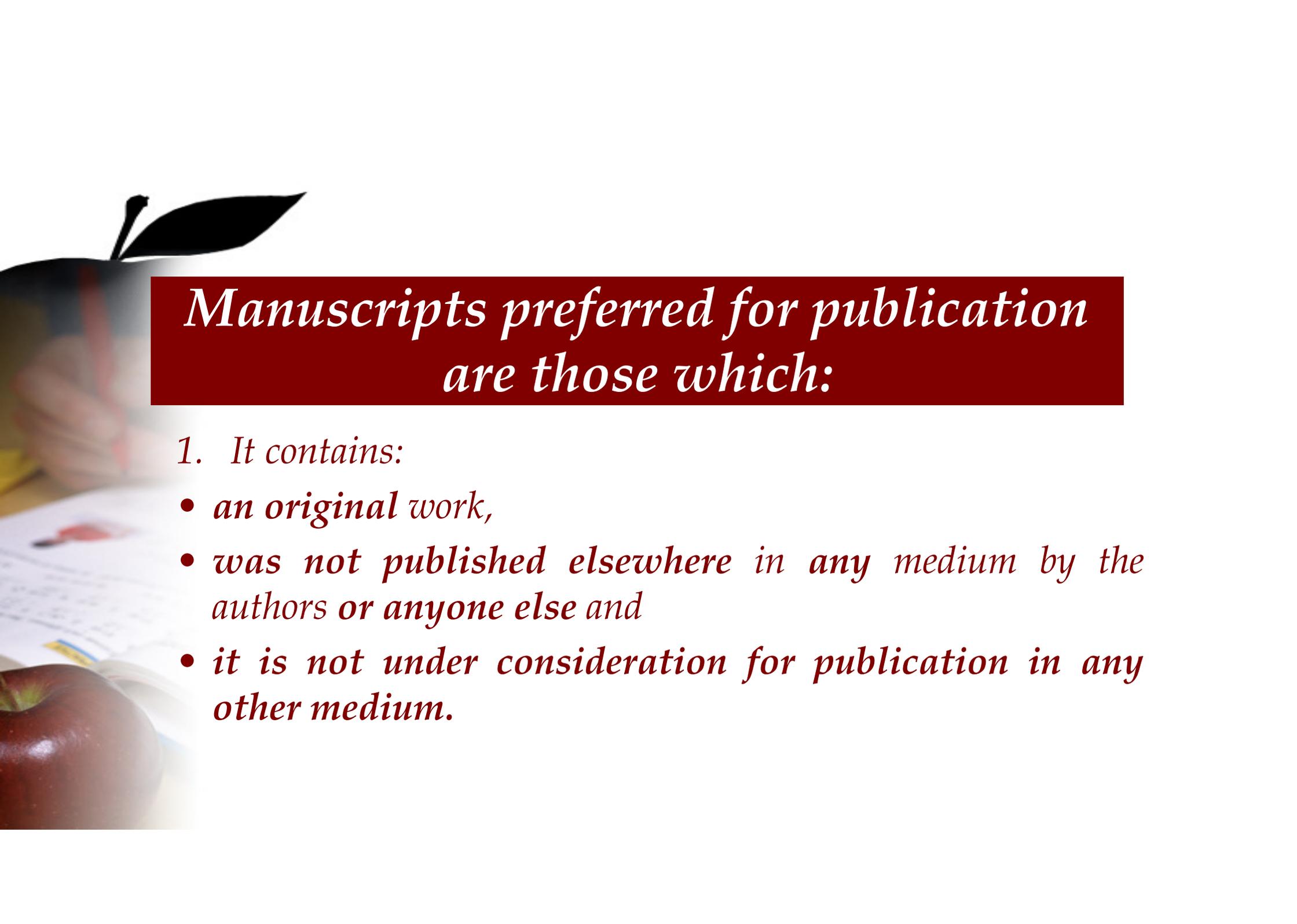


## *How do reviewers look at your paper?*

*Writing a scientific paper and getting it published is a long process.*

*You can save time and avoid frustration by learning how reviewers look at your paper.*

*In this short course you will be made aware of details that are easily overlooked when you are focused on your research but which are not all difficult to apply once you are familiar with them.*



*Manuscripts preferred for publication  
are those which:*

1. *It contains:*

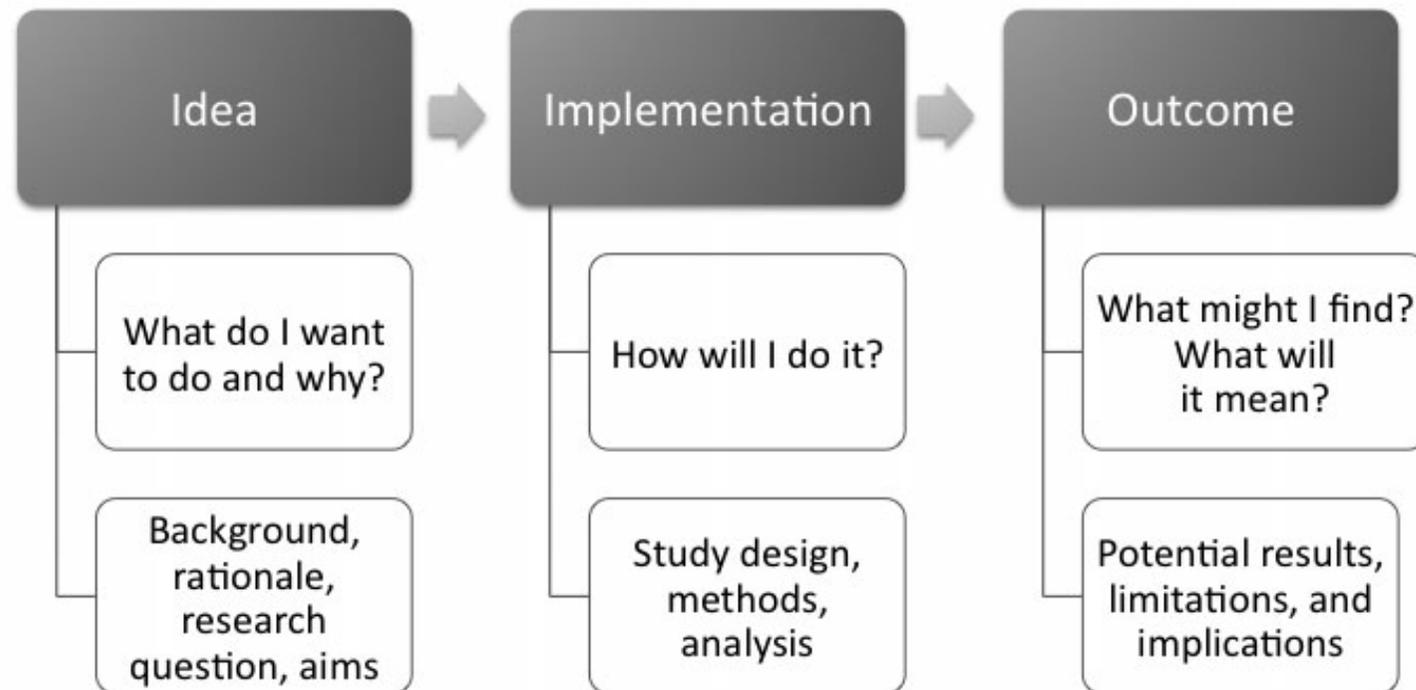
- *an original work,*
- *was not published elsewhere in any medium by the authors or anyone else and*
- *it is not under consideration for publication in any other medium.*



2. *Are focused on the core aims and scope of the journal.*
3. *Are clearly and correctly written – should contain all essential features of a complete scientific paper, in an easy to understand manner and be readable for a wide audience.*
4. *Attention to detail of the language will avoid severe misunderstandings which might lead to rejection of the papers.*
5. *Authors who are **not** English native-speakers can be provided with help in rewriting their contribution correctly.*



# *Tips for Planning a Study*

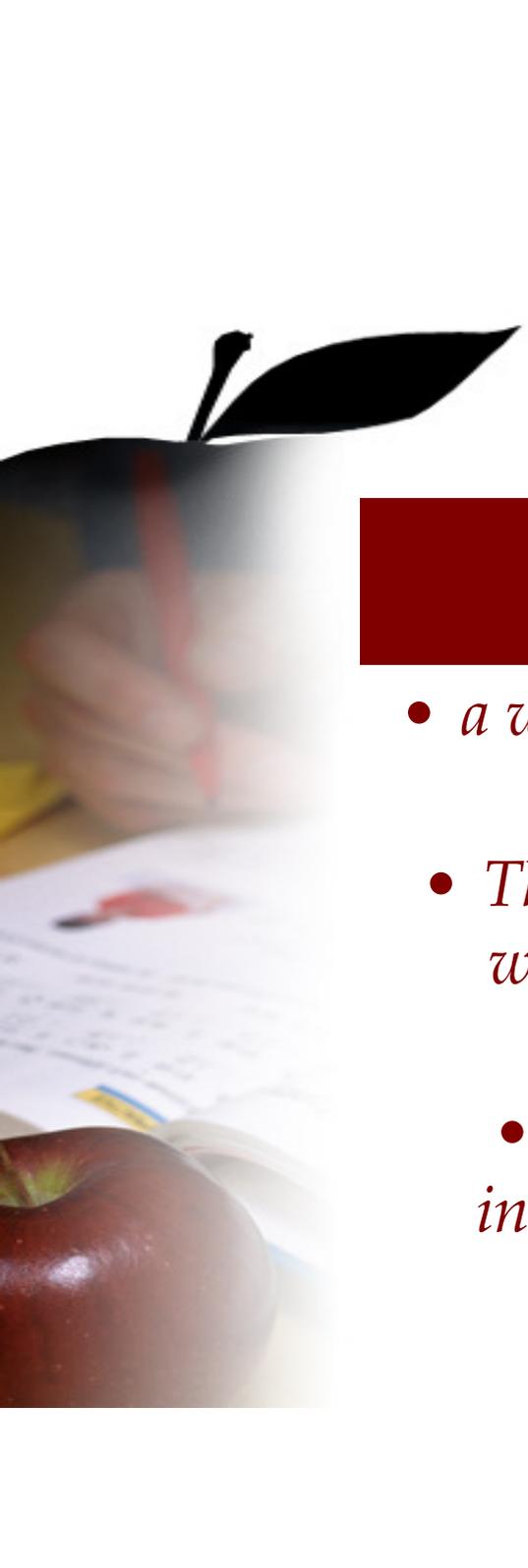


*After Wiley-Blackwell*



## *Relevant Reporting Guidelines*

- *CONSORT for clinical trials*
- *REFLECT for clinical trials involving food animals*
  - *STARD for studies of diagnostic accuracy*
- *ARRIVE for studies involving animal experimentation*



## *About the Impact Factor = IF*

- *a widely used numeric indicator of the citation rate of articles in a journal.*
- *The annual impact factor measures the frequency with which an article in a journal has been cited on average during the previous two years.*
  - *Impact factors are calculated for journals chosen for inclusion in the [Thomson Reuters ISI database](#) and are published in [Journal Citation Reports](#).*

A hand holding a pen over a document with a red apple in the foreground.

## *About the Eigen Factor*

- *evaluation method that uses the same data as the impact factor, but over a longer (5-year) window of time and, unlike the impact factor,*
  - *does not include self-citations!*

A hand is visible on the left side of the slide, writing on a document. In the foreground, there is a red apple. The background is a light, blurred image of a desk with papers and a pen.

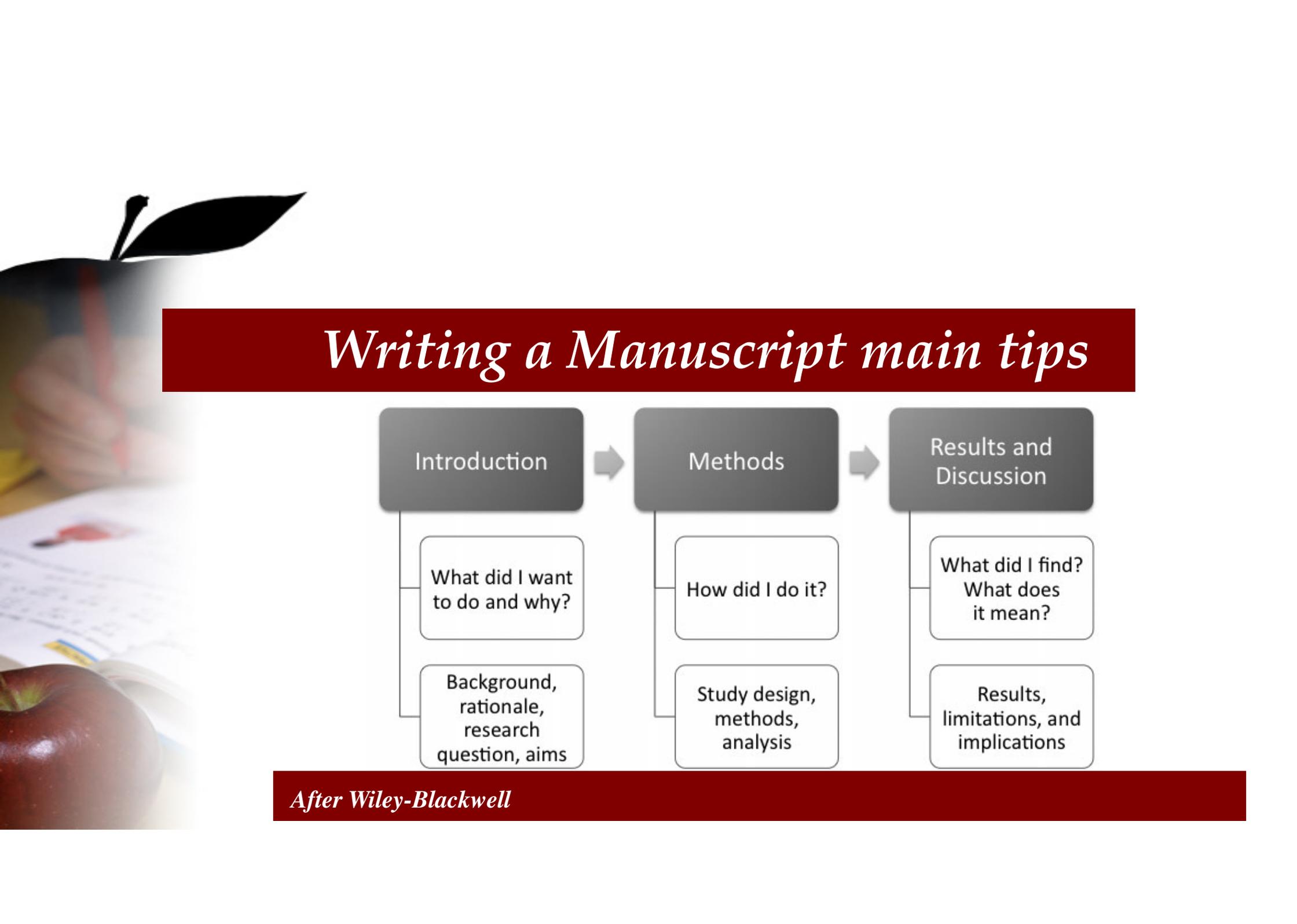
## *About the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)*

- *is a competitor to the ISI impact factor.*
- *It measures citations per article, but it uses the SCOPUS database (published by Elsevier), not the ISI database.*

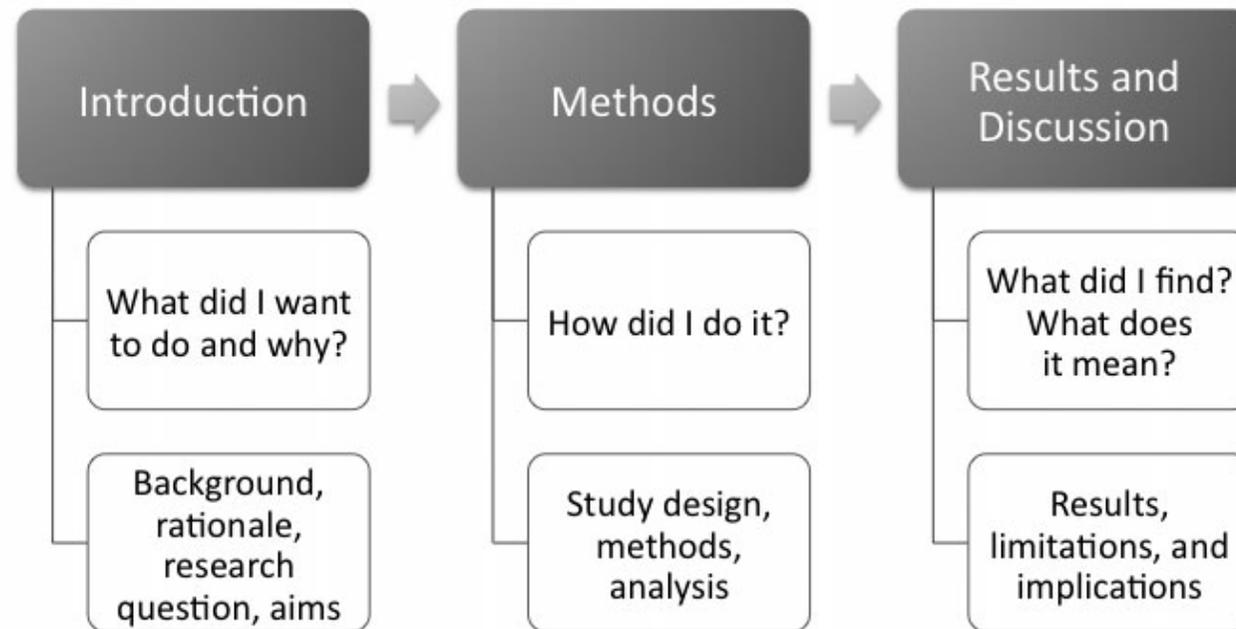


## *Indexing and Accessibility*

- *The more widely a journal is indexed online, the more accessible, giving authors a wider audience for their work.*
  - *Some indexes (e.g. [Google Scholar](#) and [Index Copernicus](#)) are open to virtually all journals;*
- *Others (e.g. [MEDLINE / PubMed](#), [AGRICOLA](#), [CAB International](#)) are controlled for standards of journal quality.*
  - *Citation indexes, (e.g., [ISI Web of Science](#) and [SCOPUS](#)), are also quality-controlled.*



## *Writing a Manuscript main tips*



*After Wiley-Blackwell*



## *Types of Sci. articles*

- *Review articles*
- *Letters to the editor*
- *Research abstracts*
- *Full-length original research articles*
  - *Brief communications*
  - *Technical reports*
  - *Case reports*

A hand is shown writing on a document with a red pen. In the foreground, there is a red apple. The background is a blurred office setting.

## *How to prepare your paper*

### *Paper main elements:*

1. *Title page with:*
  - 1.1. Title (short title)
  - 1.2. Name(s) of author(s)
  - 1.3. Name and address of workplace(s)
  - 1.4. Personal e-mail address(es)
2. *Abstract*
3. *Keywords*
4. *Text*
5. *Reference lists*

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### **1.1. *The article's title***

*The title should be relatively short but informative.*

### **1.2. *Name(s) of author(s)***

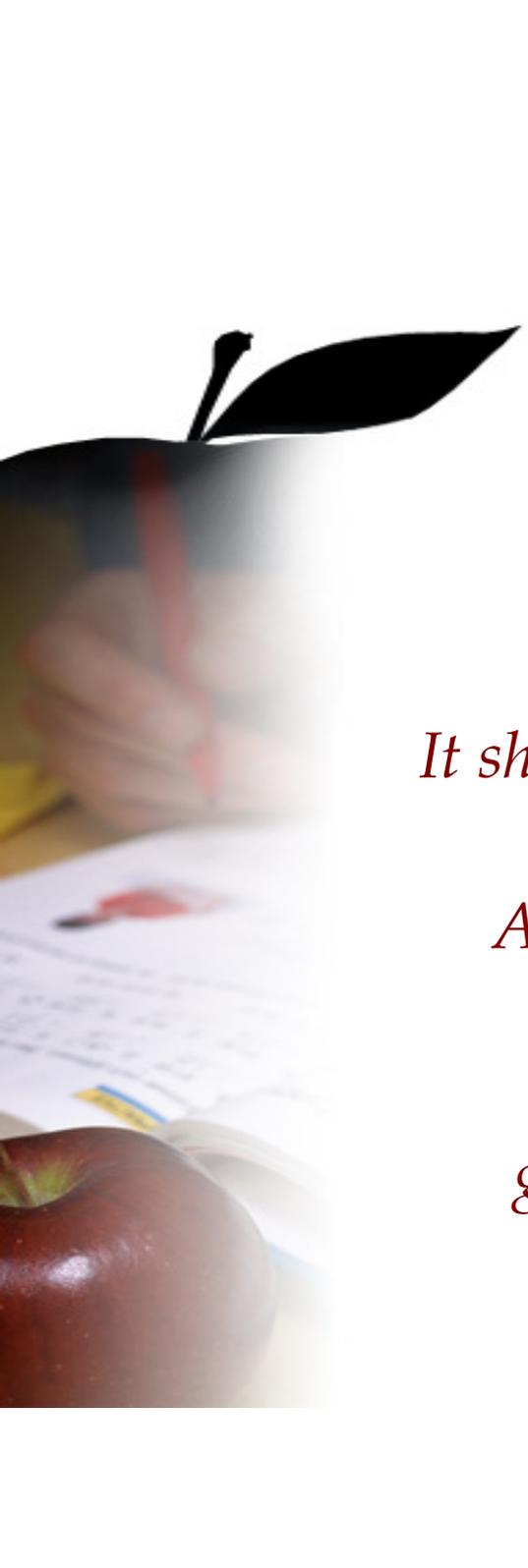
*A list of **all authors** of the paper should be prepared: full first name, initial(s) for middle name(s) and full last name.*

### **1.3. *Name and address of workplace(s)***

*Authors' **affiliations** should be indicated. Endnote or footnote can be used to present additional information (e.g. permanent, postal addresses).*

### **1.4. *Personal e-mail address(es)***

*At least one e-mail address is needed. It will be used as the corresponding author's email address in all contacts with the authors.*

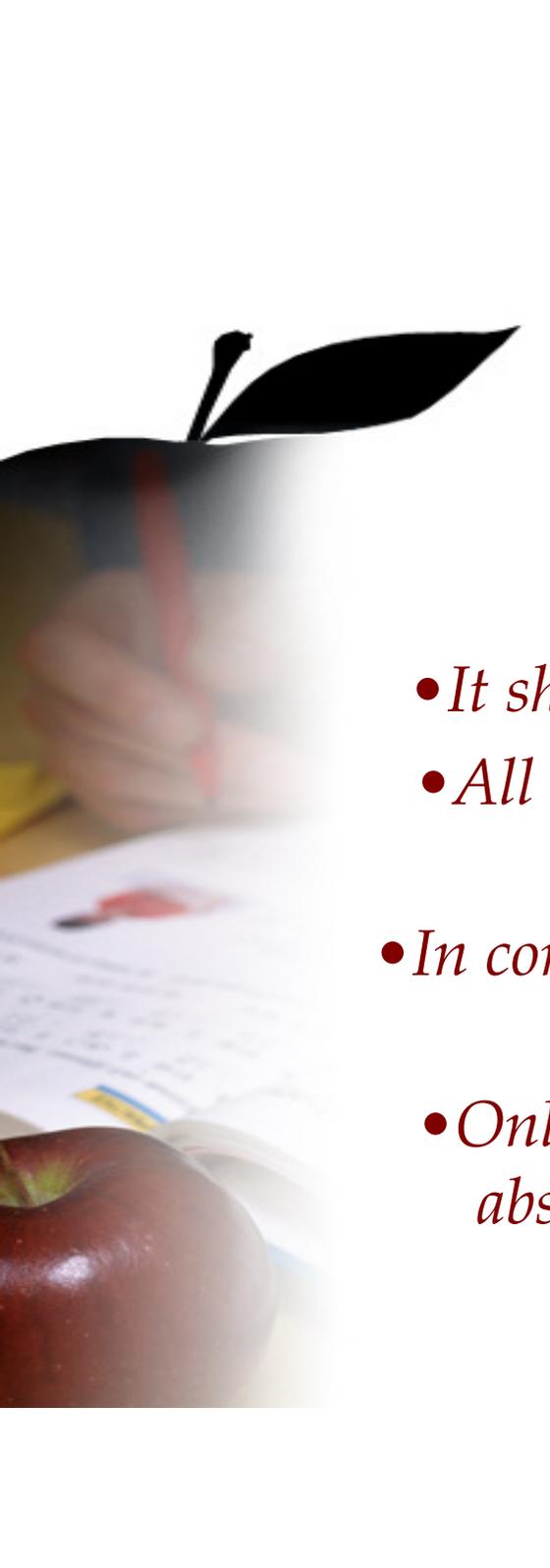


## 2. Abstract

*An abstract must accompany every article. It should be a **brief summary of the significant items** of the main paper.*

*An abstract should give **concise information** about the content of the core idea of your paper.*

*It should be **informative** and not only present the general scope of the paper but also indicate the main results and conclusions.*

- 
- *An abstract should not exceed 300 words.*
  - *It should **not contain**: citations, tables or illustrations.*
  - *All non-standard symbols and abbreviations **should** be defined.*
  - *In combination with the title and key-words, the abstract is **an indicator** of the content of the paper.*
  - *Online systems rely heavily on the content of titles and abstracts to identify articles in electronic bibliographic databases and search engines.*



### ***3. Keywords***

*List of all keywords proposed by the authors, separated by commas.*

*Generally, up to **5-6 key** terms can be selected.*

*It is suggested to avoid repeating the title.*

A hand is shown writing on a document with a red pen. In the foreground, there is a red apple. The background is a light, blurred gradient.

## 4. Text

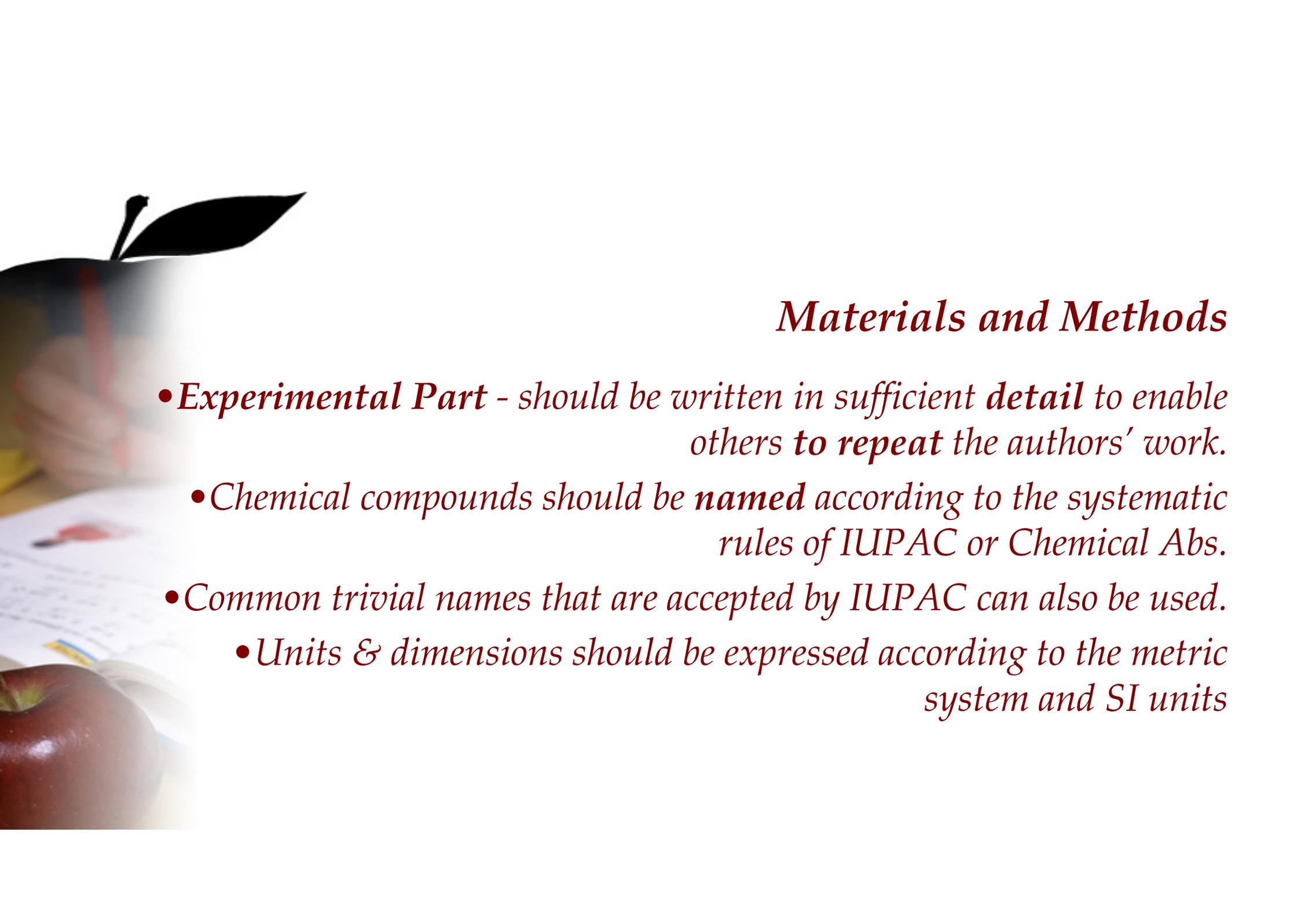
### *General rules for writing:*

- *use simple and declarative sentences, avoid long sentences, in which the meaning may be lost by complicated construction;*
  - *be concise, avoid idle words;*
  - *make your argumentation complete;*
    - *use commonly understood terms;*
- *define all non-standard symbols and abbreviations;*
- *use all units consistently throughout the article;*
  - *be self-critical as you review your drafts.*



## *General structure of a sci. paper*

- *Research papers and review articles should follow a strict structure:*
- *Introduction: you present the subject of your paper clearly, you indicate the subject's scope,*
  - *Present the goals of your paper and finally the organization of your paper;*
- *Main text: present all important elements of your scientific message;*
  - *Conclusion: you summarize your paper.*



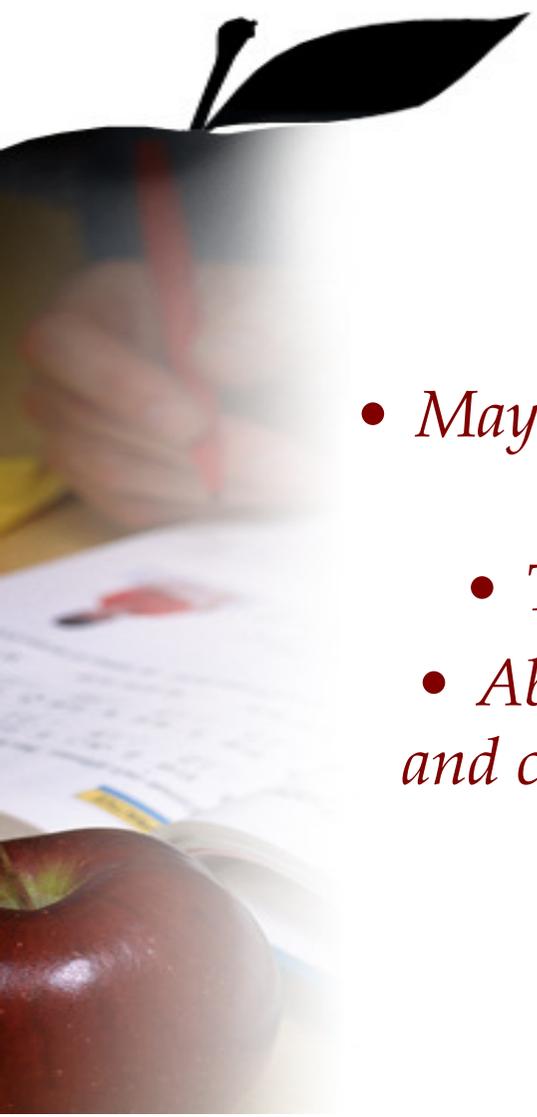
## *Materials and Methods*

- *Experimental Part* - should be written in sufficient **detail** to enable others to **repeat** the authors' work.
- Chemical compounds should be **named** according to the systematic rules of IUPAC or Chemical Abs.
- Common trivial names that are accepted by IUPAC can also be used.
- Units & dimensions should be expressed according to the metric system and SI units



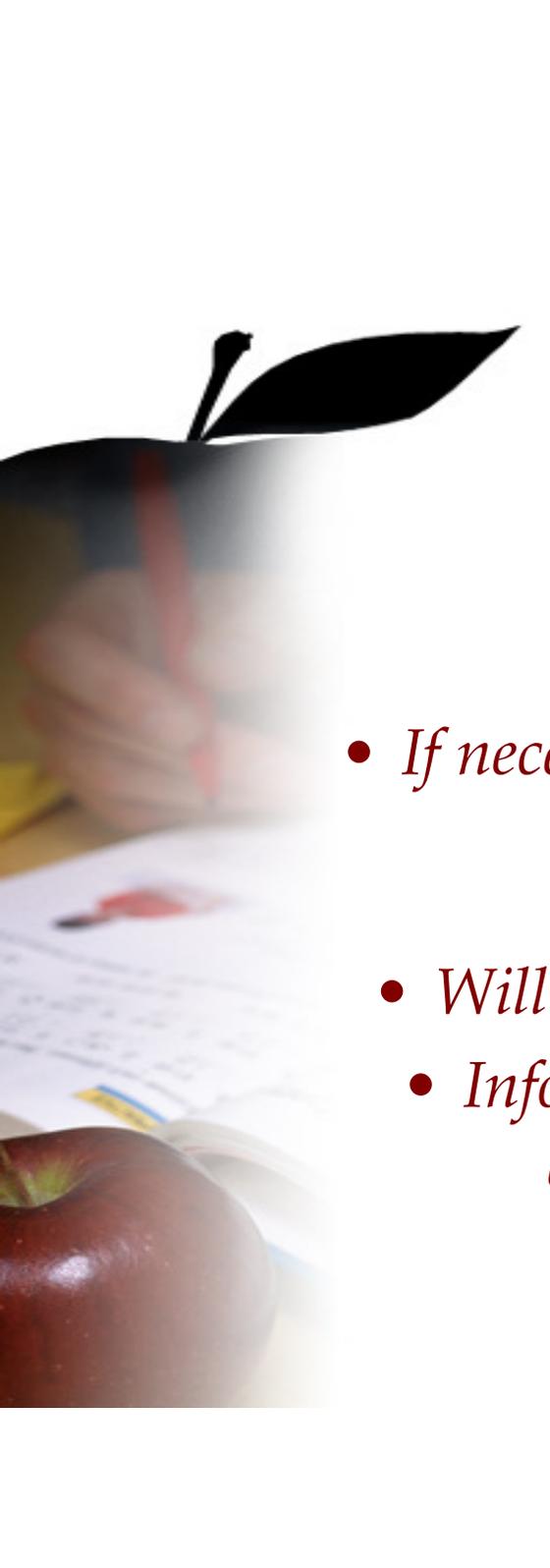
## *Computational Part*

- *technical details such as the **computational methods**, and **models** applied or newly developed models should be presented in an appropriately named section.*
- *Sufficient detail should be provided to **enable readers to reproduce the calculations.***



## *Results and Discussion*

- *May be combined or kept separate and may be divided in subsections.*
  - *This section should **not** contain technical details.*
  - *Abbreviations and acronyms should be used sparingly and consistently, where they first appear in the text, they should be defined.*

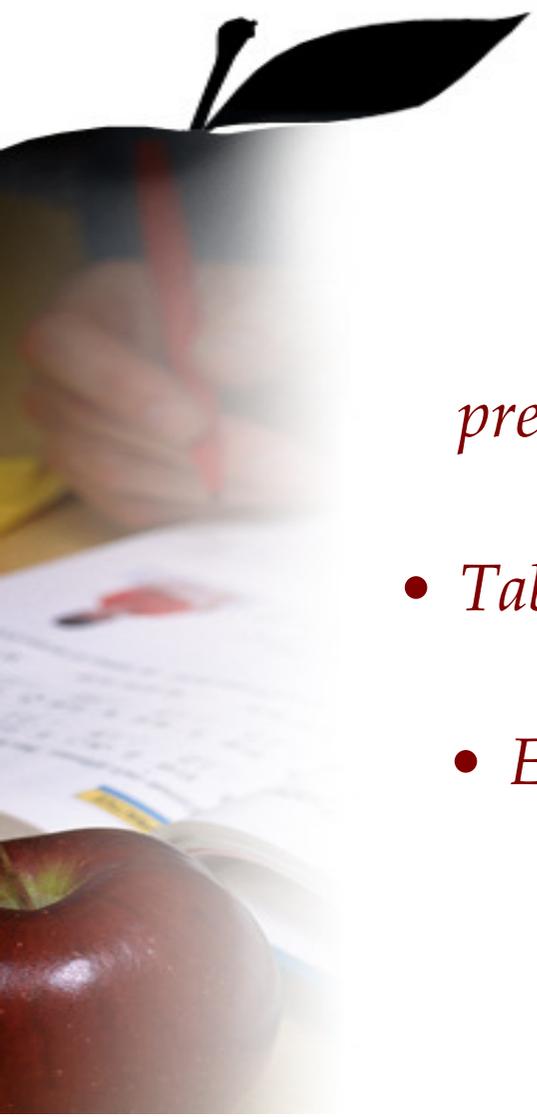


## *Footnotes / Endnotes*

- *If necessary, please make endnotes rather than footnotes.*

## *Acknowledgements*

- *Will be placed at the end of the paper, not in a footnote.*
- *Information concerning research grant support, of the assistance of colleagues, other financial resource or similar notes should also appear in this section.*



## *About the Tables*

- *Authors should use tables only to achieve concise presentation, or where the information cannot be given satisfactorily in other ways.*
- *Tables should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals and referred to in the text by number.*
- *Each table should have an explanatory caption which should be as concise as possible.*



## *About the Figures*

- *May use line diagrams and photographs to illustrate theses from the text.*
- *The figures should be clear, easy to read and of good quality.*
- *Styles and fonts should match those in the main body of the article.*
- *Lettering and lines should be of uniform density and the lines unbroken.*
  - *Axis labels should be in bold face.*
- *Units should be placed next to variables in parentheses.*



## *About the Schemes*

- *Generally are formulas and sequences of reactions.*
- *They should have brief titles describing their contents.*
- *Schemes should be numbered with Arabic numerals.*



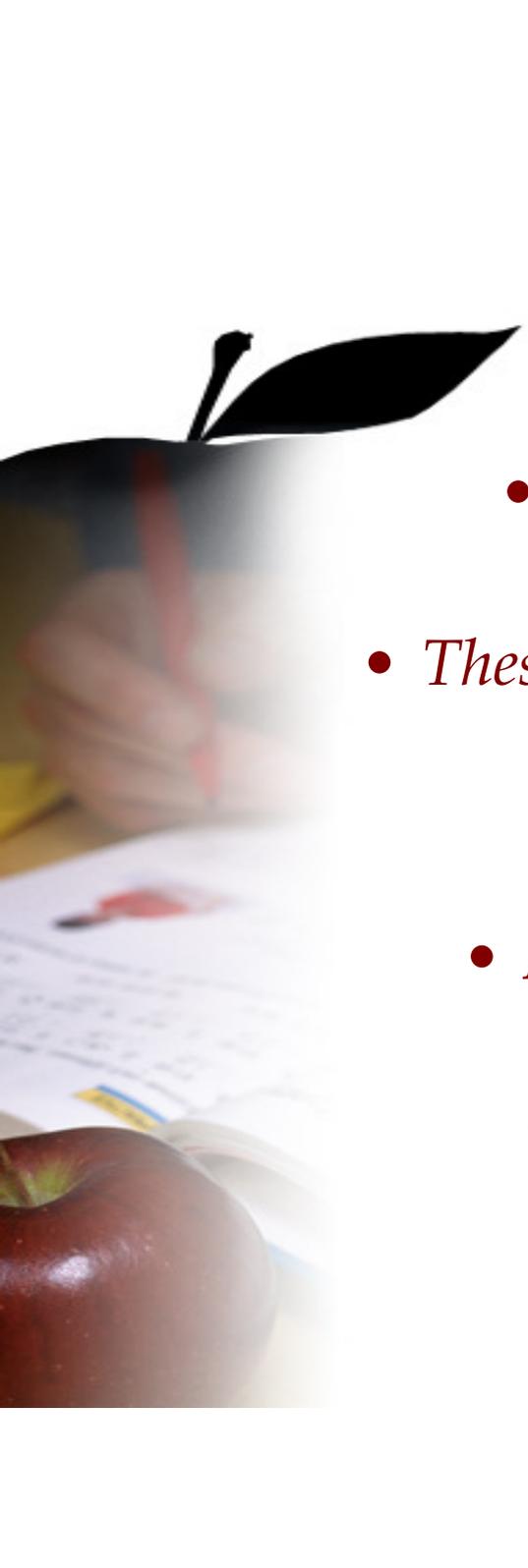
## About multimedia and images

*Attach files in the formats:*

- *Images: **BMP, GIF, TIFF, JPEG** formats,*
- *Multimedia: **MPEG** or **AVI** formats.*

*Please keep to file types that are read by*

- *standard media players (e.g. **RealPlayer, QuickTime, Windows Media Player**) and/or standard office applications (**Adobe Acrobat Reader, Microsoft Office** etc.).*
- *Your attachments may be accessible through links to external locations*

- 
- *Authors should indicate precisely in the main text where table / figures / schemes should be inserted,*
  - *These elements are to be given at the end in the original version of the manuscript.*

***Please try to:***

- *Minimize file sizes by using a lower resolution or number of colors for images and animations*
- *Submit your paper with **separate attachments**, which are used in your paper.*



## *5. Reference list*

- *A complete reference should give the reader enough information to find the relevant article.*
- *Please pay particular attention to spelling, capitalization and punctuation here.*



## *About the editing styles*

*There are so many editing styles, but for our science the specific reference styles are to be mentioned :*

- *APA*
- *Vancouver*
- *Harvard*
- *Canada*
- *Chicago*

A hand is shown writing on a document with a red pen. In the foreground, there is a red apple. The background is a plain white surface.

*Manuscript organization pitfalls...  
How to avoid them!*

<i>Problem</i>	<i>Solution</i>
<i>Specific aims are not addressed in the methods or results.</i>	<i>All specific aims indicated in the introduction should lead to a description of the methods and the results for that aim.</i>
<i>Methods and results are provided that do not match the specific aims of the study.</i>	<i>All methods and results should be linked to one or more of the specific aims of the study.</i>
<i>Methods and results don't match.</i>	<i>For every method there should be a result and for every result there should be a method; they should be in complete agreement.</i>
<i>Results are described in methods.</i>	<i>Whenever a method is described, the outcomes should be considered as results. Ex: when a method for the selection of cases is described, the number of cases included in the study is a result.</i>
<i>Methods are included in the results.</i>	<i>Don't repeat methods or introduce new methods in the results.</i>

<i>are presented both in figs or tabs.</i>	<i>figure or table. Instead, summarize the data in the text and refer to the figure or table.</i>
<i>Interpretations are made in the results.</i>	<i>Report data dispassionately. Avoid using terms like “only”, “nearly”, “excellent,” or “poor.” Simply report the findings and leave the interpretation for your discussion.</i>
<i>Introductory material is repeated in the discussion.</i>	<i>Don’t repeat your reasons for doing the study in the discussion; you’ve already described these in the introduction. Focus on the results and what they mean.</i>
<i>Results are repeated in the discussion.</i>	<i>Avoid repeating statements of results in the discussion; rather, think to what you want to say about particular results – were they unanticipated? confirmatory? limited by sample size or analytical methodology? Don’t cite tables or figures in discussion.</i>
<i>New results are included in the discussion.</i>	<i>Do not introduce new data in the discussion. A new table or figure should be included in the discussion only when it involves the literature being discussed, such as a table summarizing published findings in relation to the findings in your study.</i>



## *Options in article publishing: open access or a traditional journal?*

*There are a number of ways you can make your research  
open access when submitting and publishing in  
important journals.*

*The number of published articles each year is rising.  
So it's increasingly important for you to find ways to make  
your article stand out.*

*Publishers and editors can do a lot to help, but as the paper's  
author you are often best placed to explain why your  
findings are so important or novel.*

## Common grammar errors:

- **Match singular and plural subjects** with singular and plural verbs, respectively. (“data” takes a plural verb, as in “data are...”)
- **Avoid using nouns as adjectives**, e.g., use “feline” diseases rather than “cat” diseases.
- Use **which** and **that** correctly: “that” defines the noun before it and is almost always the correct word.
- Use **to** and **with** appropriately for comparisons – “to” asserts a similarity, as in “tumor x compares to tumor y in its metastatic potential”, whereas “with” asserts both similarities and differences, as in “response to treatment x was compared with response to treatment y”, and is the most common usage in sci. articles.



## *Do not forget!*

### *First Impressions Count!*

- *To increase the likelihood that your manuscript proceeds to peer review, ensure:*
  - *it is complete,*
  - *correctly formatted,*
  - *well-written & organized, and*
- *free of spelling and language errors before you submit it (use your computer's grammar and spell-check.*



*Some useful tips*



*How to find the perfect Journal to publish your research*

- *How to search to find the IF of a Journal*
  - *How to verify your English Language*
    - *How to write the text: some clues*
      - *How to write a Cover Letter*
- *How to make an account to a Sci. Journal*
- *How to submit to the Editorial Manager*

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## *About the review process*

- *How to make a Point-by-Point revision*
- *How to submit additional materials*
- *How to follow the E-pub appearance of the paper*
  - *How to see the analytics of the published paper*



## *Handling a Negative Decision*

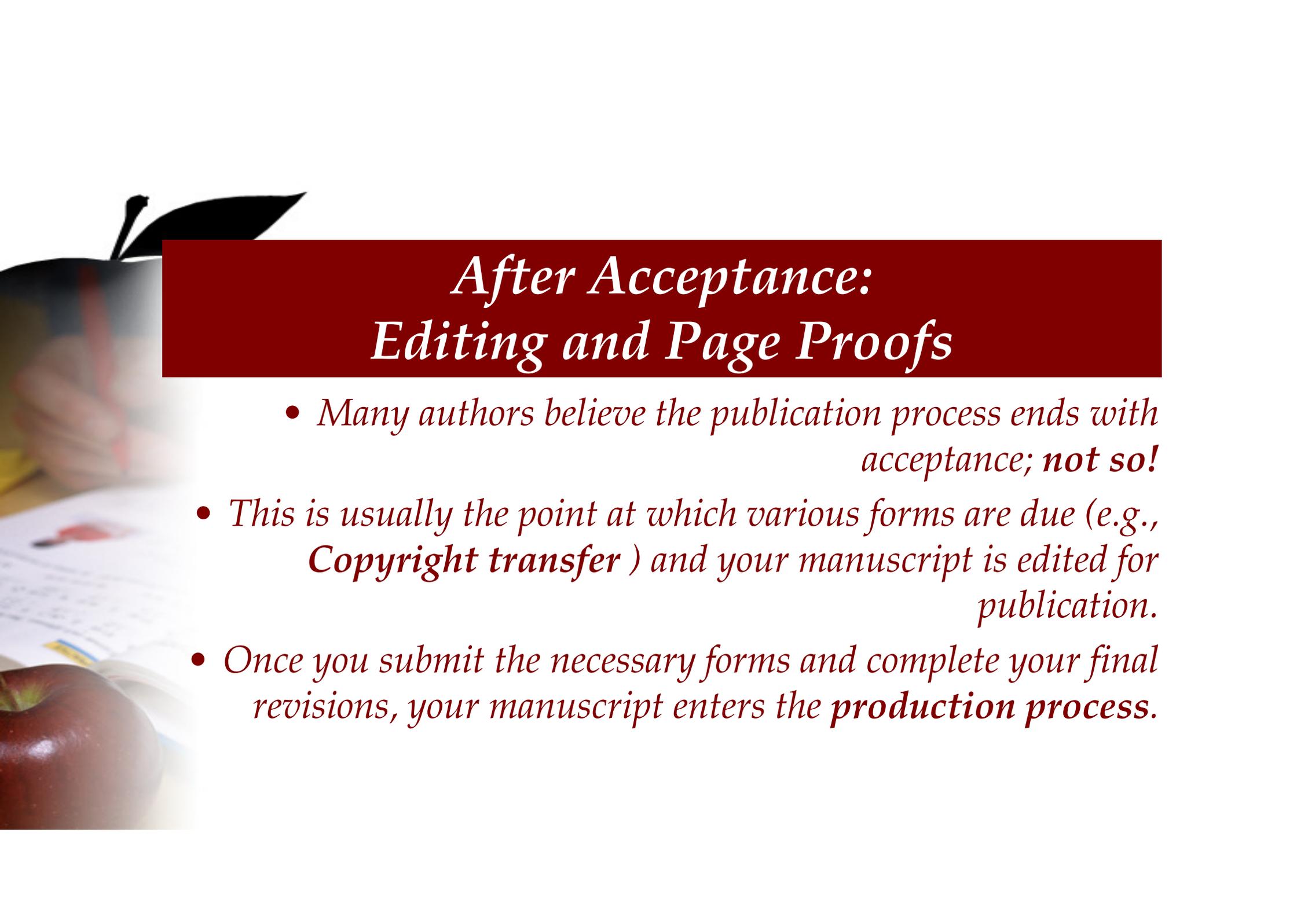
*Common reasons for manuscript rejection include:*

- *the manuscript does not adhere to basic author guidelines*
  - *the topic is not within scope*
  - *there are fatal flaws in the study design*
  - *the study fails to provide sufficient new info*
- *A rejection is a final decision; don't revise and send your manuscript back to the same journal without first discussing this with the editor.*



*you decide to revise your manuscript and submit it to another journal, you should:*

- *address previous reviewer comments*
  - *prepare a new cover letter*
  - *write a new abstract*
- *update the literature search and references*
- *reformat the manuscript according to the new journal's instructions for authors*



## *After Acceptance: Editing and Page Proofs*

- *Many authors believe the publication process ends with acceptance; **not so!***
- *This is usually the point at which various forms are due (e.g., **Copyright transfer** ) and your manuscript is edited for publication.*
- *Once you submit the necessary forms and complete your final revisions, your manuscript enters the **production process**.*



- *Once you and the editor have approved the proofs, your article is ready for publication.*
- *The online publication of your article, which often occurs ahead of print publication, is considered the official version of record (it is assigned a DOI [digital object identifier], is indexed, and can be cited by others).*



## *Bibliography*

- *Christopher M, Young K. Writing for Publication in Veterinary Medicine. A Practical Guide for Researchers and Clinicians (<http://authorservices.wiley.com> )*
- *Day RA, Gastel B. How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper. 6th ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press; 2006.*
- *Lang T, Secic M. How to Report Statistics in Medicine: Annotated Guidelines for Authors, Editors, and Reviewers. 2nd ed Philadelphia, PA: American College of Physicians; 2006.*
- *Elsevier - Author Artwork and Multimedia Instructions. Version 1.2; July 2012.*



## *Useful websites*

- *International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.*  
<http://www.icmje.org>.
- *International Association of Veterinary Editors.*  
<http://www.veteditors.org>.
- *Author Aid. Supporting developing country researchers in publishing their work.* <http://www.authoraid.info/>
- *COPE: Committee on Publication Ethics.* <http://publicationethics.org/>
- *Office of Research Integrity. Guidelines for best practices in image processing.*  
<http://ori.hhs.gov/education/products/RIandImages/guidelines/list.html>.

# Questions?

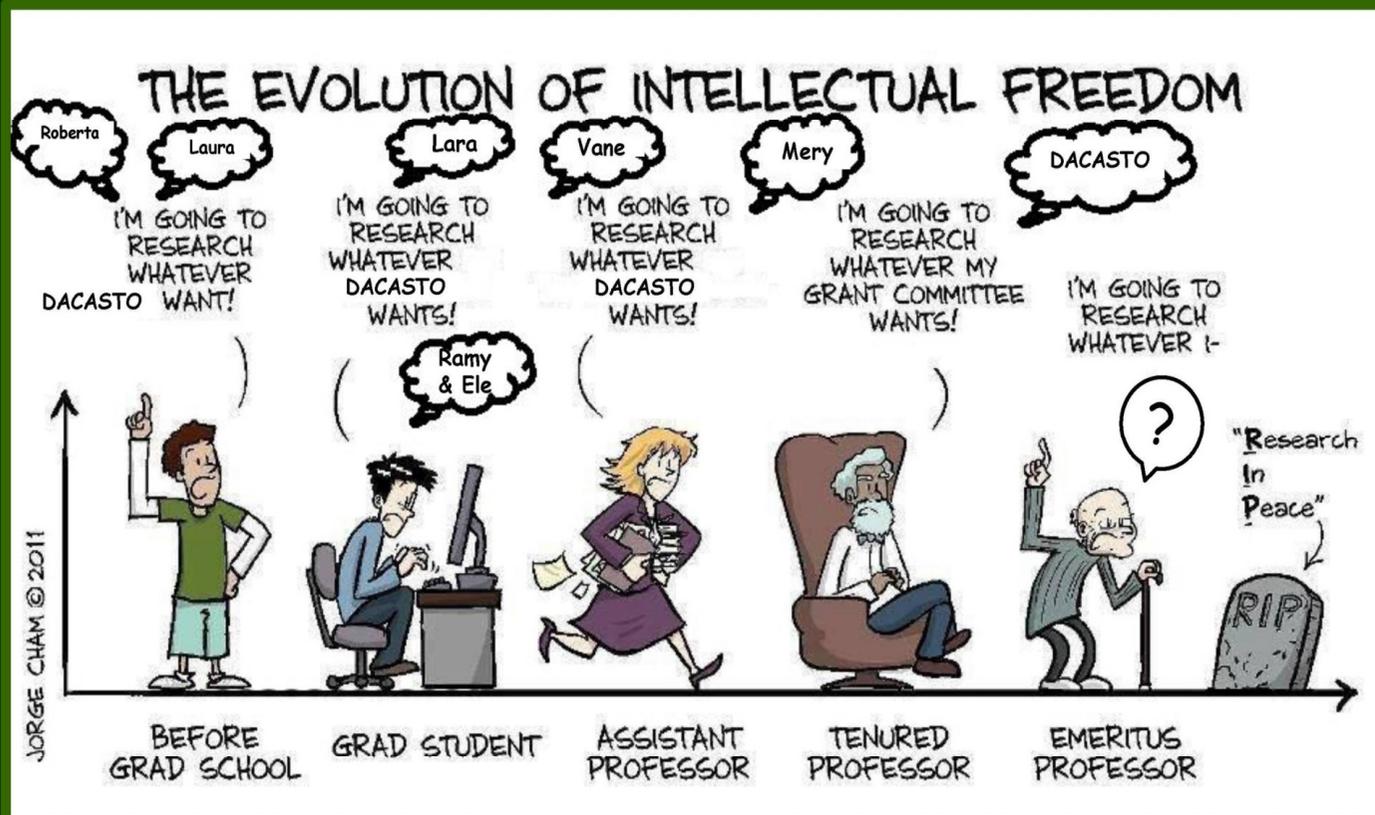


Image source: courtesy from Prof. Mauro Dacasto – Univ. Padova

Thanks for your *attention!*