# Additional writing exercises (02)

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### Additional Writing Exercises: Sentence structure/form

The following example sentences break one of more of Strunk & White’s Principles of Composition. Read each sentence and consider how you can edit it to improve it.

**Use Definite, Specific, Concrete Language**

1. "Many scientists have suggested that quorum sensing might play a role in bacterial communication."
2. "Several researchers have found that certain genes could be involved in antibiotic resistance."
3. "It has been noted that Streptomyces can potentially produce a wide variety of antibiotics."
4. "Some studies indicate that plasmids might be important for gene transfer among bacteria."
5. "Various experiments have shown that gene transcription could be regulated by environmental factors."
6. "Researchers have found that certain operons might control metabolic pathways in E. coli."
7. "There is evidence to suggest that riboswitches can be used to regulate gene expression."
8. "Certain scientific studies have suggested that biofilms could protect bacteria from antibiotics."
9. "A number of different reports show that horizontal gene transfer might occur in microbial communities."
10. "Several articles have mentioned that CRISPR-Cas systems could be used for genome editing."

**Put Statements in Positive Form**

1. "It is not uncommon to find that genes are not inactive during stress conditions."
2. "Bacteria that do not fail to form biofilms are important for chronic infections."
3. "It is not unlikely that Streptomyces will not fail to produce antibiotics under optimal conditions."
4. "Plasmids are not ineffective when used for gene cloning."
5. "It is not unimportant to monitor the expression levels of virulence genes."
6. "The results were not inconsistent with previous studies on quorum sensing mechanisms."
7. "It is not infrequent that bacterial populations do not show antibiotic resistance."
8. "It is not rare for regulatory RNAs to be used in controlling gene expression."
9. "Gene expression is not unaffected by changes in nutrient availability."
10. "It is not uncommon for scientists to study the mechanisms of horizontal gene transfer."

**Use the Active Voice**

1. "It has been observed by researchers that quorum sensing regulates bacterial behavior."
2. "It was found by scientists that certain genes confer antibiotic resistance."
3. "A discovery was made by the team that Streptomyces can produce novel antibiotics."
4. "The research was conducted by scientists to understand gene transcription regulation."
5. "It was shown by experiments that plasmids can transfer genes between bacteria."
6. "A conclusion was drawn by researchers that biofilms protect bacteria from antibiotics."
7. "Studies were carried out by scientists to investigate horizontal gene transfer."
8. "It was demonstrated by the team that CRISPR-Cas can edit bacterial genomes."
9. "Observations were made by researchers regarding the impact of quorum sensing on virulence."
10. "An analysis was performed by scientists to understand the role of operons in metabolic pathways."

**Combinations of Issues**

1. "It is not unusual for studies conducted by various scientists to suggest that quorum sensing might regulate bacterial communication."
2. "Research has been carried out by multiple teams to find that certain genes could potentially be involved in antibiotic resistance."
3. "It is not impossible for Streptomyces to produce novel antibiotics, as has been shown by some research."
4. "Several investigations have been conducted to demonstrate that plasmids might be important for gene transfer, although this is not certain."
5. "Studies by various researchers have indicated that there is a possibility that gene transcription could be regulated by environmental factors, although the results are not conclusive."
6. "It has been suggested by numerous reports that some operons might control metabolic pathways, although this is not guaranteed."
7. "There is some evidence provided by different studies to suggest that biofilms could protect bacteria from antibiotics, but this is not definitive."
8. "Research conducted by several teams has shown that it might be possible for CRISPR-Cas to edit bacterial genomes, although this is not confirmed."
9. "It is not unlikely that regulatory RNAs could potentially control gene expression, as suggested by various reports."
10. "A number of experiments have been carried out to demonstrate that horizontal gene transfer might occur in microbial communities, although the results are not always consistent."