

5 Easy Ways to Improve Your Papers

1. Write an introduction that draws your reader in.
 - a. An introduction sets the scene for the rest of the paper. If it's good, your readers' first impressions will be positive. If it's not good, readers might view the rest of the paper in a more negative light.
2. Vary sentence length to make the paper more interesting.
 - a. Too many long sentences can be boring, and too many short sentences can feel choppy. Variety helps keep the reader engaged.
3. Don't use too many quotations from your sources; instead, interpret your sources in an interesting way.
 - a. Instructors want to see your critical thinking. So quote sparingly, and spend most of the paper interpreting your sources.
4. Don't spend the entire conclusion of your essay summarizing your argument; instead, add a novel insight that your reader will remember.
 - a. Leave the reader with something to think about, rather than a mere summary of the previous pages.
5. Be sure to edit, edit, edit!
 - a. Instructors may give you a lower grade on your paper if they find careless errors. So take the time to carefully edit and proofread for paper.

References

Shushan, Jamie H. *A Pocket Guide to College Success*. Bedford/St. Martin's , 2014.