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Avoiding rejection: how to successfully navigate the publishing process

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Portfolio Manager, Anthropology &
Archaeology Journals, Taylor & Francis



Top ten reasons for rejection

1. Sent to the wrong journal.
2. Not a true journal article.
3. Not following the journal's author guidelines.
4. Poor regard of the journal's conventions/academic writing.
5. Poor style, grammar, punctuation or English.
6. No contribution to the subject.
7. Not properly contextualised.
8. Poor theoretical framework.
9. Messy presentation and sloppy proofreading.
10. Libellous, unethical, rude or lacks objectivity.

Today's focus

- Choosing the appropriate place to publish
- Preparing your manuscript
- Navigating the peer review process

#2

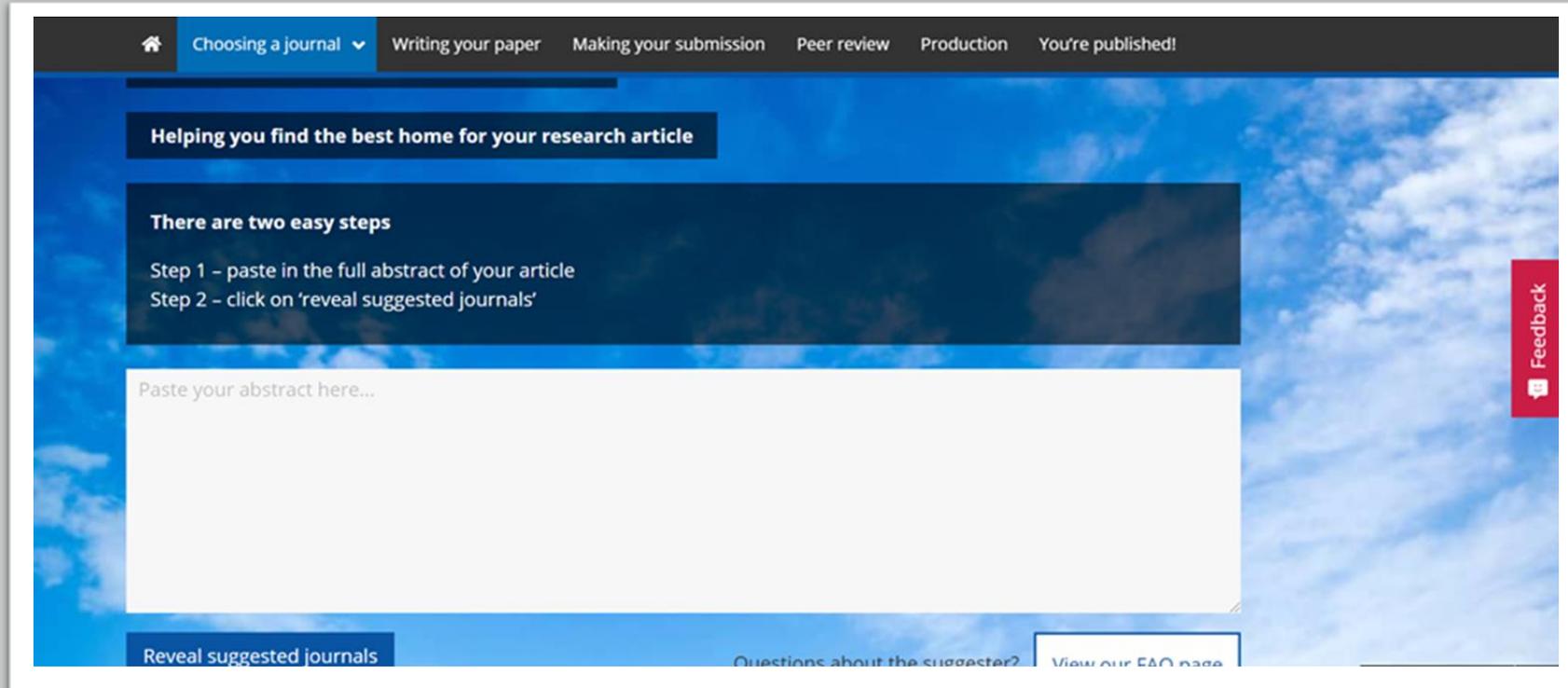
Not a true journal article

Understand your:

- Current project
- Target audience
- Type of content
- Requirements
- Options

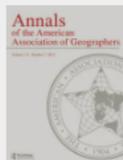
Remember, you are joining an
ongoing conversation





#1 Sent to the wrong journal

- Research your publishing options
 - Read
 - Talk to colleagues
 - Understand how your publications will be assessed
 - Identify potential journals
 - Carefully read the Aims and Scope statements



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Aims and scope

The *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* is one of the world's leading geography journals and is the flagship journal of the American Association of Geographers, in publication since 1911. The *Annals* aims to publish original, timely, and innovative articles that advance geographic knowledge in all facets of the discipline. To be accepted, a paper must adhere to a high standard of scholarship and make an important contribution to geographic knowledge. It should also be grounded in the relevant literature of the specialization it represents and, where appropriate, establish relationships to themes within the broader discipline. Contents include regular manuscripts, special issues, forums, commentaries on published *Annals* articles, Presidential Addresses, and memorials.

Peer Review Policy: All Articles, Special Issues, Forums, and Commentaries submitted to this journal undergo a "double-anonymous" peer review by one to three referees, one of which will be the editor or designate. Commentary Responses undergo "single-anonymous" peer review.

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Aims and scope

Social & Cultural Geography publishes theoretically consequential empirical research that makes a strong intellectual contribution to critical human geography and its allied fields. The journal confronts topical issues relating to social/cultural problems and issues in geography and fosters scholarly debate about them. It strives for international authorship and readership, as well as in the peer-review process.

Social & Cultural Geography publishes research in a variety of formats, including original articles, provocations, forums and special issues. Information about each of these formats is available in the 'About the Journal' section of the website.

Special Issues

We welcome proposals for special issues, which should be consequential and innovative. We limit the number of special issues to 3 per volume. Guidelines for special issues can be found [here](#).

Peer Review Statement

All submitted manuscripts, including those which form part of special issue sets, are subject to initial appraisal by the Editors, and, if found suitable for further consideration, to double blind peer review by three independent, anonymous expert referees. Submission is online via [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#).

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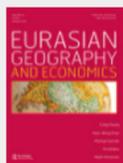
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Aims and scope

Eurasian Geography and Economics welcomes original papers on geographical and economic issues in the Eurasian region, broadly defined as encompassing [China, Russia, India, South East Asia, the former Soviet Union and Europe](#).

We welcome theoretically informed papers which address any key current [geopolitical and geo-economic](#) developments in the region. Papers should clearly contextualise the topic in the relevant literature and the development of the region itself, and made clear what [contribution to knowledge regarding the region and/or applicable theory they make](#). We also welcome papers which have an [explicit comparative dimension](#), either within the region or between Eurasia and the rest of the world, or submissions that link regions across Eurasia, as well as sub-national scales of analysis. Papers which seek to integrate studies of Eurasia geography and economics into wider disciplinary debates, and which bring out what those debates can learn from studying the region, are particularly encouraged.

The journal does *not* publish papers which: fail to make clear what they key contribution of the paper is or do not make clear its relevance to the wider region and appropriate literature; are descriptive or report the results of a narrow case study- or present an in-depth account and/or evaluation of an economic model - without developing the wider implications for the region.

The journal will also consider review papers on significant issues in, or theoretical approaches to, the region (particularly in its global context), and proposals for guest edited theme issues on topics which generate insight into the development of the region or a significant part of it. In addition we will also welcome shorter papers for the *Eurasian Pulse* section of the journal which provide critical topical analyses of key current events in the region

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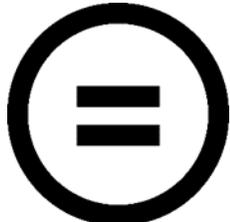
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Predatory publishing

*Predatory journals pose a serious threat both to researchers publishing the results of their work and to the peer-reviewed medical literature itself. These publications differ from legitimate open-access journals in that predatory journals **subvert the peer-review publication system for the sole purpose of financial gain with little evident concern for ethical behavior.***

AMWA, EMWA & ISMPP joint statement on predatory publishing

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Journal of [REDACTED] Medicine promotes and publishes the articles for spreading the cutting-edge research in [REDACTED] **Medicine.**

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As the journal is not funded by any funding resources we will charge the minimum publication fee (based on the economic standards of the country which is given by World Bank) to maintain its standards online.

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How to avoid publishing in one

- Do your research
 - Check the journal website
 - See if the journal is indexed in respected indexes/archives
 - Review the published articles for quality
 - Make sure they have clear and robust editorial policies
 - Talk to your colleagues and librarians
- Use the ThinkCheckSubmit toolkit



#4-9: the manuscript

4. Poor regard of the journal's conventions/academic writing.
5. Poor style, grammar, punctuation or English.
6. No contribution to the subject.
7. Not properly contextualised.
8. Poor theoretical framework.
9. Messy presentation and sloppy proofreading.



Preparing your manuscript: some basic tips

Keep it simple: express complicated ideas plainly

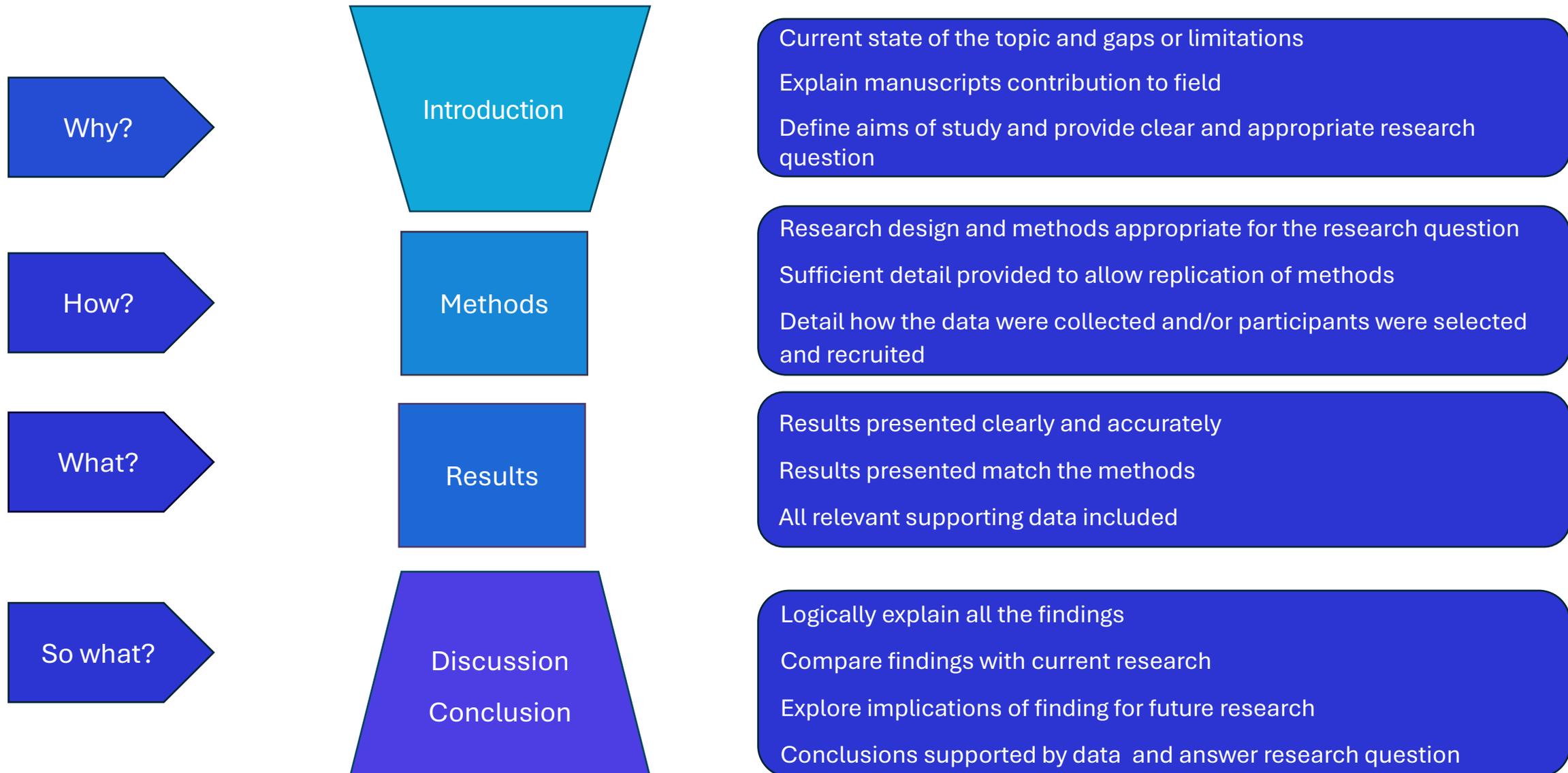
Use accessible language when possible

Create a strong and appropriate structure

Figures, tables, images

Data availability: FAIR

You are telling a story-make sure it is consistent and easy to follow



Writing an abstract

Write the paper first-it is a map of the entire paper.

Check the IFAs for the journal.

Think about your intended audience.

Focus on the essential information: background, objectives, methods & outcome.

Include key words.

Revise your abstract every time you revise the paper.

Language-difficult to read?

The crucial role of feedback

Share your work throughout the writing process

- Colleagues
- Conferences
- Preprint servers
- Academic networking sites
- Writing groups

The paper you submit should be in the best possible shape.

3: Not following the journal's author guidelines

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- About the journal
- [Article publishing charge and waiver requests](#)
- [Peer Review](#)
- Manuscript preparation for GHA
 - [Types of Articles](#)
 - [Reporting Guidelines](#)
 - [Manuscript Guidelines](#)
 - Other issues to consider
- Using third-party material in your paper
- Clinical Trials Registry
- Complying with ethics of experimentation
- Consent
- Health and safety
- Copyright options
- [Data Sharing Policy](#)
- What happens after your paper is accepted for publication?
- Authored works
- Special issues
- Queries

About the journal

Global Health Action is an Open Access, international, peer reviewed journal, publishing high-quality, original

Research integrity & publishing ethics

Error/unintentional misconduct

Intentional misconduct



Authorship

What are the issues?

Author disputes, Ghost authorship, Guest authorship & authorship for sale

Who qualifies?

1. Made a **significant contribution** to the work reported.
2. Have **drafted** or **written**, or substantially **revised** or critically **reviewed** the article.
3. Have **agreed on the journal** to which the article will be submitted.
4. **Reviewed and agreed on all versions of the article** before submission, during revision, the final version accepted for publication, and any significant changes introduced at the proofing stage.
5. **Agree to take responsibility and be accountable** for the contents of the article and to share responsibility to resolve any questions raised about the accuracy or integrity of the published work.

Authorship

Remember:

Any listed author is a representative of the published paper and shares accountability

Corresponding authors signs **author publishing agreement** on behalf of co-authors

Authorship comes with responsibilities

Authorship and transparent use of AI

Taylor & Francis supports the responsible use of Generative AI tools that respect high standards of data security, confidentiality, and copyright protection in cases such as:

- Language improvement
- Idea generation and idea exploration
- Interactive online search with LLM-enhanced search engines
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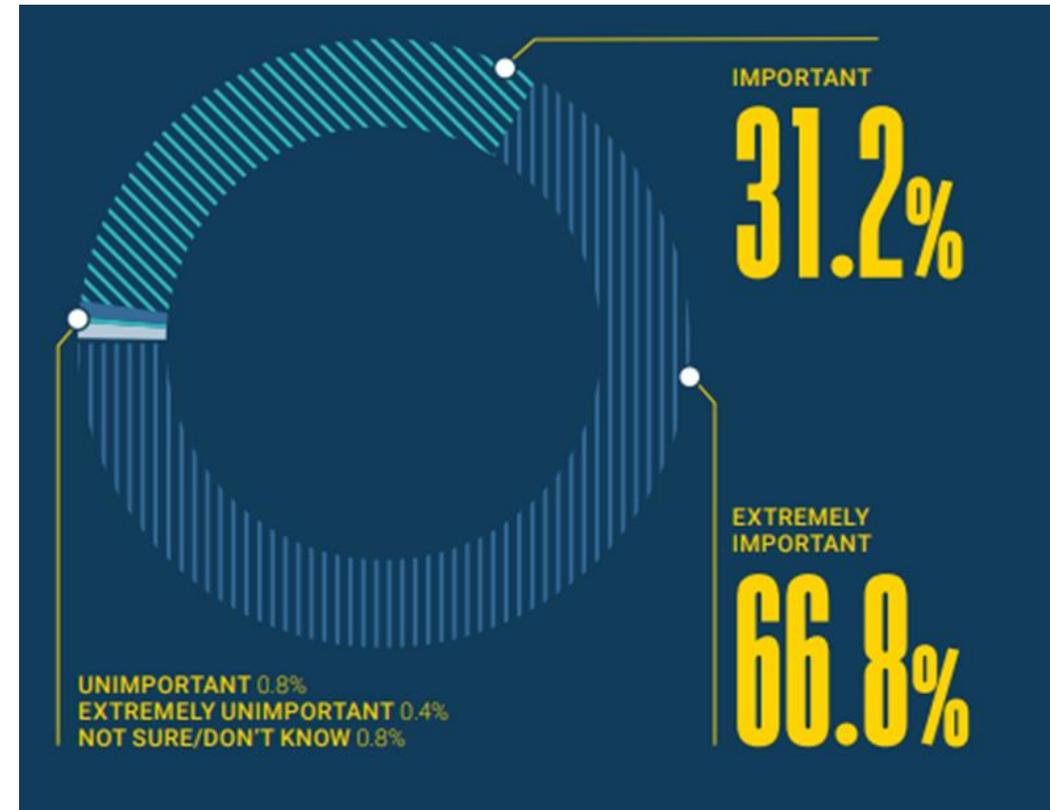
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Quality control: peer review

Peer review is at the heart of research. It is the gold standard for ensuring the trust and integrity of scholarly communication. More still, it is a form of collaboration between experts, with critical feedback often improving research and helping propel research forward.

Andrew Preston, Publons

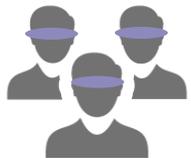


Types of peer review



Single-anonymous

- Reviewers know the identity of the authors
- Authors do not know the identity of the reviewers
- Most common model of peer review in STM



Double-anonymous

- Reviewers do not know the identity of the authors
- Authors do not know the identity of the reviewers
- Most common in HSS



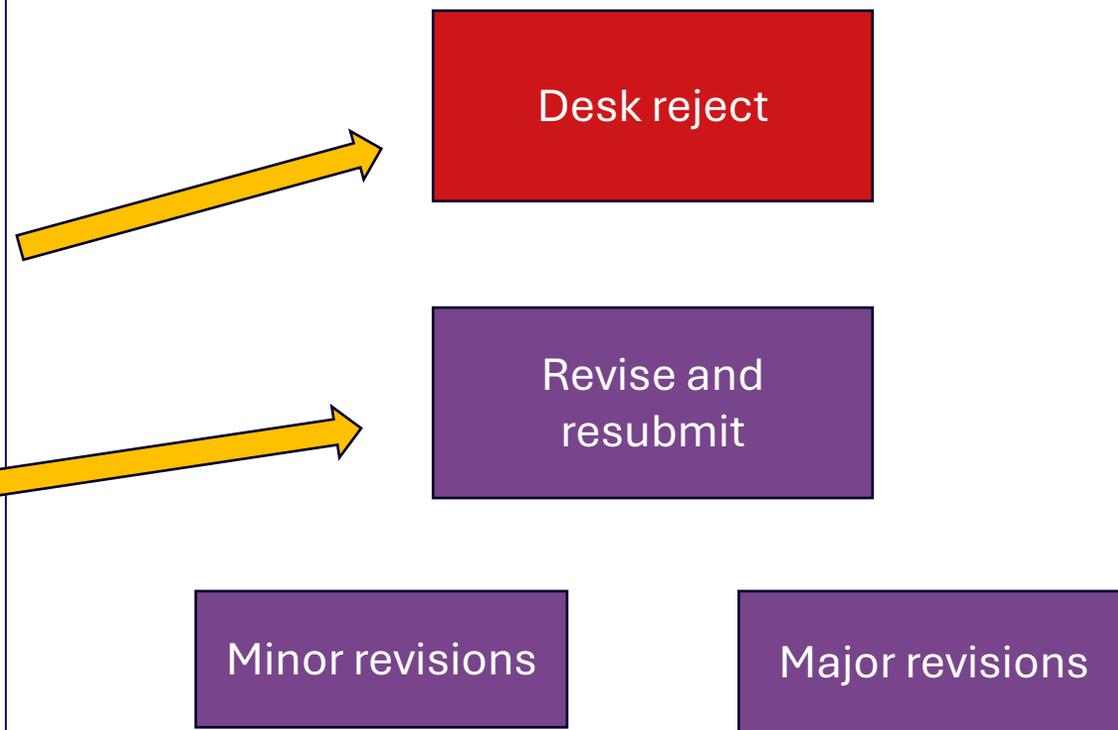
Open peer review

- Reviewers know the identity of the authors
- Authors know the identity of the reviewers
- Reviewer reports may be published with reviewer names if article accepted

Peer Review Process



Most common decisions



Responding to reviewers comments

1. Don't become disheartened.
2. Carefully read the decision letter.
3. Consult your co-authors.
4. Break down the comments by category-create a list.
5. Make all of the suggested amendments if appropriate.
6. If the peer reviewer has misunderstood something, review your explanation.

Make it easy for the editor

7. Address every comment:
 - Where you amended (page number, new material)
 - Why you didn't amend (be specific and again, respectful)
8. Review the response twice to make sure it is clear and devoid of any frustration.
9. Be professional and respectful of the reviewers and editor.
10. Remember: the reviewers are trying to help you publish your best work.

Top ten reasons for rejection

1. Sent to the wrong journal.
2. Not a true journal article.
3. Not following the journal's author guidelines.
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5. Poor style, grammar, punctuation or English.
6. No contribution to the subject.
7. Not properly contextualised.
8. Poor theoretical framework.
9. Messy presentation and sloppy proofreading.
10. Libellous, unethical, rude or lacks objectivity.

Guidance, news and ideas for authors



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- Research impact
- Policies
- Researcher services
- Events
- Insights blog

1. Research your options

2. Draft your article

3. Instructions for authors

4. Make your submission

5. Peer review

6. Making revisions

7. Your article is accepted

8. Promoting your work



Research your publishing options

Take the time to explore the journals in your field, to choose the best fit for your research. Find a journal that serves the audience you're trying to reach, and whose aims and scope match your approach. You might also have choices to make about different publishing options, including open access.

[Discover more about choosing the right journal](#)

How to choose open access when publishing

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Thank you!

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