1. **Avoid weak verbs ”to be” and ”to have” and use action verbs, instead.**

* Systems intelligence constitutes a new working life competence requirement.
* Systemic capability involves the ability to perceive give-and-take processes in one’s surroundings.

**Task 1. Replace weak verbs with more academic ones.**

Students are an important stakeholder group in university operations.  
-> Students **­­­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** an important stakeholder group in university operations.  
  
The investment in technical education is 3 MEUR.   
-> Investment in technical education **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** 3MEUR.

1. **Replace two-word phrasal verbs with latinate ones (e.g. talk about -> discuss, look into -> explore)**

**Task 2.** Researchers ***looked at***the way strain ***built up***around a fault.

-> Researchers **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the way strain **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** around a fault.

1. **Avoid contracted forms (it’s, isn’t, we’re)**  
   This wasn’t within the scope of the study.  
    -> This was not within the scope of the study. / This was excluded from the study scope.
2. **Avoid negative forms** (*not… any, not many*)  
   The sample was not sufficient to corroborate the hypothesis. -> The sample was insufficient to…

**Task 3. Avoid negative ‘not’.**

The study did not yield positive results.   
-> The study yielded **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** positive results.  
  
The study did not yield many positive results.  
 -> The study yielded **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** positive results.

1. **Be careful with personal pronouns** (*you, I, we, people, one*)  
   I examined the phenomenon in this study. -> This study investigated the phenomenon.
2. **Be careful with possessive’s with inanimate objects**The research project’s aim was to analyze information networks.  
   -> The aim of the research project was to… / The research project aimed to…

Organization’s culture determines employee behavior.  
-> Organizational culture determines employee behavior. / The culture of the organization determines…

1. **Carefully consider the use of direct/indirect questions (*how, why, what, which*)**   
   This work examines how intrinsic student motifs can be elicited in the classroom.  
   -> This work examines ways in which intrinsic student motifs can be elicited in the classroom.
2. **Place adverbs in mid-position.**

Also, the solution can be discarded. -> The solution can also be discarded.

**Task 4. Replace with verbs that more accurately describe the process in question:**

This research used the qualitative approach.  
 -> This research **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the qualitative approach.  
  
The aim is to get the work done in six months.  
 -> The aim is to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the work in six months.

1. **Apply the active voice whenever possible**

In this study is examined the impact of peer reviews on arts students.   
 -> **This study examines** the impact of peer reviews on arts students.

The findings are demonstrated in Table 2.  
-> **Table 2 demonstrates** the findings.

**Task 5.** **Which of the italicized words would be more suitable for an academic paper?**

1. Crash test dummies are *really important for / an integral part of* automotive crash tests.
2. In Hong Kong, there is one cell phone *for just about / nearly* every two people.
3. There has been *a lot of / considerable* interest in alternative energy sources.
4. We *got / obtained* encouraging results using structural bamboo rather than timber.
5. **Aim for an efficient use of words.**

Making a decision about the method that we should use can be difficult.   
-> Selecting the proper method can be difficult.

There are some inorganic materials that can be used in the process of tissue engineering that have been shown to be very promising.  
 -> Some inorganic materials applied in tissue engineering have shown great promise.

1. **Avoid run-on expressions  
     
   Task 6.** Add the missing superordinate concepts + for example, for instance, including, or such as.

The electrical vibrations in a radio receiver can be measured in*, for example, volts, amperes*.  
The electrical vibrations in a radio receiver can be measured in electrical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *volts* or *amperes.*