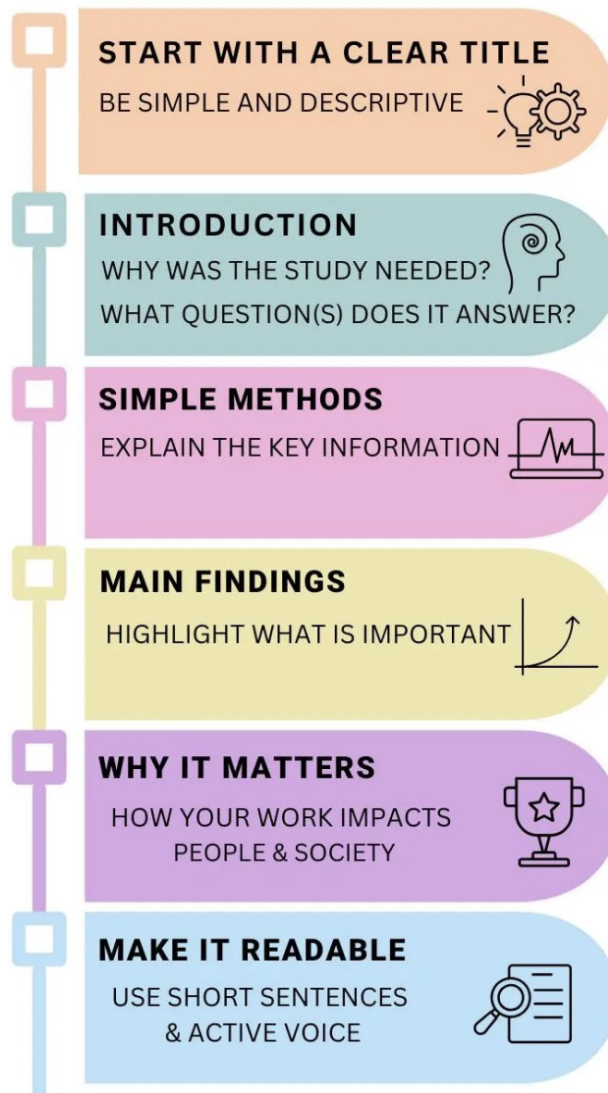


What is a Lay Summary?

A lay summary simplifies complex research to make it accessible and engaging for non-experts. It works to bridge the gap between science and everyday understanding to connect with the public and promote scientific literacy!

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE



6 Tips for Success

- Make it easy to read (approx. 250-300 word count)
- No jargon or acronyms
- Use an active voice and positive phrasing in your writing
- Provide concrete examples wherever possible
- Highlight why the research matters and show real-world impact
- Show your summary to a person outside of your research area or to intended audiences

A ChatGPT Generated Example

[Original]

CRISPR-Cas9 Gene Editing to Mitigate Protein Aggregation in Neurodegenerative Diseases

"Our research explores the efficacy of CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing in mitigating the effects of gene mutations implicated in neurodegenerative diseases. Our findings indicate a statistically significant reduction in protein aggregation, a hallmark of these diseases, following gene editing."

[Layperson Summary]

Gene Editing to Reduce Harmful Build-up in the Brain for Neurodegenerative Diseases

"We investigated a way to fix genetic errors related to diseases that affect the brain. We found that by using a special tool, we could reduce the build-up of harmful substances in the brain, which is a big step toward treating these diseases."

Guidelines for Writing Clearly

To make your summary easy to understand, replace complex words with simpler alternatives:

- **Participate in** → *take part*
 - *Example:* "Participants took part in a study on memory."
- **Prior to** → *before*
 - *Example:* "We collected data before the intervention."
- **Discontinue** → *stop*
 - *Example:* "The treatment was stopped after five weeks."
- **In the event of** → *if*
 - *Example:* "If symptoms appear, participants should notify researchers."
- **Duration** → *time*
 - *Example:* "The study lasted for a short time."

- **Inform** → *tell*
 - *Example:* “Researchers told participants about the procedure.”
- **Scheduled to undergo** → *due to have*
 - *Example:* “Participants were due to have a hearing test.”
- **Accordingly, consequently** → *so*
 - *Example:* “The results were unexpected, so we conducted further analysis.”
- **With reference to, with regard to** → *about*
 - *Example:* “This study is about how memory affects attention.”
- **If this is the case** → *if so*
 - *Example:* “The device may improve speech clarity. If so, it could be widely used.”
- **For the purpose of** → *to*
 - *Example:* “We analyzed brain activity to understand cognitive effort.”

Template

Author:

Category:

Description (*1 sentence max*):

Keywords:

Link (*to the source*):

Summary Title:

Summary:

This research is about [*general topic*], which matters because [*reason*]. We wanted to understand [*specific problem*] since [*reason*]. to explore this, we [*describe the method in simple terms*]. We found [*key finding*], which means [*implication in simple terms*]. This research could help [*describe potential impact*], leading to [*benefit*]. In short, our work shows that [*briefly restate main finding*], which is important because [*reason*].