

Passive voice in the methodology section

Passive voice is incredibly common in the methodology section. While you do not need to completely abandon active voice, do use the passive voice frequently. Note how and when researchers in your field use it in the methodology.

To use the passive voice in the methodology follow this formula:

was/were + 3rd form (past participle).

Note that most academic verbs, in particular in the methodology section, are regular. Hence, you only need to add **-ed** to the end of the verb. For a list of irregular academic verbs, [go here](#).

Active voice	Passive voice
We instructed participants to record dietary intake daily over the 24-week intervention	Participants were instructed to record dietary intake daily over the 24-week intervention.
We compared statistically the estimated model parameters of different samples were by use of their 95% confidence intervals.	The estimated model parameters of different samples were statistically compared by use of their 95% confidence intervals.
I made the calculations using the output files from the Microwin2000.	Calculations were made using the output files from the Microwin2000.
To study the extent of BN dissociation at high temperatures and low pressures, I performed a heat test using an experimental setup.	To study the extent of BN dissociation at high temperatures and low pressures, a heat test was performed using an experimental setup.
We collected the scattering intensities at different angle.	The scattering intensities at different angles were collected .
We provided participants with a goal for a calorie-restricted diet and given a dietary fat goal corresponding to ≤ 25% of calories.	Participants were provided a goal for a calorie-restricted diet and given a dietary fat goal corresponding to ≤ 25% of calories.
I employed three levels of coding (open, analytic, and thematic).	Three levels of coding (open, analytic, and thematic) were employed .

All examples from:

- Harvey, et al. (2019). Log Often, Lose More: Electronic Dietary Self-Monitoring for Weight Loss. *Obesity*, 27(3), 380–384.
- Lismont et al. 2020. Can BRET-based biosensors be used to characterize G-protein mediated signaling pathways of an insect GPCR, the *Schistocerca gregaria* CRF-related diuretic hormone receptor? *Insect Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, 122
- Monge Morera M. et al. (2020). Processing Induced Changes in Food Proteins: Amyloid Formation during Boiling of Hen Egg White. *Biomacromolecules*. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.biomac.0c00186>
- Pallares Pallares, A. et al. 2018. Process-induced cell wall permeability modulates the in vitro starch digestion kinetics of common bean cotyledon cells. *Food Funct.*, 9, 6545
- Stegemann, S. et al. 2020. Production of intense mass separated 11C beams for PET-aided hadron therapy. *Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research B* 463, pp. 403–407