

# Reviews in Computational Biology

5. Editing



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# The Introduction

- **Set the context from general to specific**
  - Show that the research area is important/interesting/relevant.
- **Establish a niche**
  - Show need for your work (the review)
- **Occupy the niche**
  - Announce your main point
  - Indicate structure of article

# The Main Body

- **Use subheadings for each section**
  - One sentence summary/conclusion
  - Helps non-linear reading
- **If appropriate, use a figures and/or tables**
  - Review figs are often schema/cartoons
  - Use caption to make them self-descriptive

# The Conclusion

- **Specific → general**
  - Mini summary
  - Broader implications, future directions

# Improve Flow

- **Start each paragraph with a topic sentence**  
It signals paragraph content to the reader
- **Improve cohesion**  
Connect sentences through conjunctions, parallel structures, repeated keywords, pronouns, “old-new” pattern, etc.
- **Remove unneeded/redundant words**

# Final checks

- **Spelling:** use automated spell-checker (e.g. ispell) *and* proofread your text carefully.
- **Verify one more time**
  - that references are accurate and complete
  - that each claim backed by citation
  - that your narrative is coherent
  - that the article meets editorial policy (in particular length requirements)
- **Ask a colleague for feedback on draft** (thank for his/her help in Acknowledgement section)

# *Exercises*