

## English for Science

### **Salient features of English:**

- Only about 15% of the world's population speaks English
- But only 5% are native speakers of English (i.e. ~95% are non-native speakers)
- Most scientists around the world communicate in English
- So, English became the universal language of science

### **Advantages/merits of English:** By learning a single language, one can

- Communicate with other scientists anywhere in the world
- Gain access to the vast majority of scientific literature

### **Main challenges of non-native speakers of English are:**

- To communicate directly with other scientists
- To prepare oral presentations
- To write manuscripts for articles, papers, reports, theses
- To write for research grants

### **Any manuscript of the non-native speakers of English must be:**

- Clear,
- Simple,
- Logical and
- Concise

### **English communications for scientists:**

- Writing correspondence (personal letters, applications, e-mails, CV (resume))
- Communicating in the classrooms (prepare, run and evaluate classroom sessions)
- Giving oral presentations
- Writing scientific articles (progress reports, papers, theses)
- Interacting during conferences, seminars, symposia

### **English in biological science; pre-writing activities:**

- Describing a specimen
- Describing a book
- Describing a table
- Describing a graph
- Writing paragraphs
- Writing short accounts

### **References:**

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- Pearson, I. 1978. *English in Biological Science*. Oxford University Press.
- Swales, J. 2003. *Writing Scientific English*. Nelson, England.