Revising for Concision: 10 Tips

Even though academic writing can seem wordy, the best academic writing communicates everything relevant in as few words as possible. Trying to fulfill high word counts or create paragraphs with a fixed number of sentences can lead to wordiness, which can confuse the reader and cloud our ideas. Instead, writers should strive to be precise and concise in their writing.

Before focusing on details at the sentence level, look at your paper as a whole and try to identify and delete any repetitive content. Read each body paragraph aloud and locate its topic sentence. Make sure that all sentences

1. Sentences without them often have the same meaning:

We found the proposal <u>quite</u> feasible.	We found the proposal feasible.
The remark, though unkind, was very accurate.	The remark, though unkind, was accurate.