

Writing for Nuclear Future

About this document

Thank you for contributing to Nuclear Future. Please read the following guidelines (three pages) and review the checklist before submitting your paper. The guide and style points are designed to support you in producing journal-ready copy for Nuclear Future. If you have any questions or comments on this guide, please get in touch with the creative editor at nieditor@centuryonepublishing.uk or the technical editor at technicaleditor@nuclearinst.com.

Check list

Before you submit, please check you have provided:

1. **Main text**- with images/figures/charts/tables cited in the text and full references.
2. **Images**- provided as separate high resolution image files (such as jpeg). Please ensure you have permission to use, in print, any images provided.
3. **Image captions**- a list of the images/figures/charts/tables provided along with captions to accompany them (and any acknowledgements that may be required).
4. **Biography**- a short (50 word) biography of each author.
5. **Author image(s)**- a high resolution head and shoulder image of each author.
6. **Postal address**- to enable us to send the complimentary copy of the journal.
7. **Your social media details.**

Please also ensure your work has been thoroughly proof read before submitting, bearing in mind the following guidelines and style points.

Tips for proofing your work

Before submitting your work, please ensure it has been thoroughly proof read by you and at least one other person. Here are some proofing tips for checking your own work:

- Zoom your document up by 200% and reread.
- Print off a hard copy and reread.
- Change the font and reread.
- Sleep on it and reread.
- Read it out loud.
- Treble space lines and reread.

Guidelines and style points

Structure of paper

Papers should clearly describe the background of the subject, the authors work, including the methods used, and provide a conclusion.

The main text should be provided in a word document with a maximum word count of 3000 (including biographies and references).

Introductions

Please spend time making your opening sentence as compelling as possible, making it easy for the reader to keep reading. Draft your introduction, reread it and if you think the reader would think, ‘So what?’ rewrite it.

Charts/graphs

Please ensure all graphs/charts have labelled axes and units of measure.

Units of measure

Be consistent with units of measure throughout your paper, sticking to the SI base and derived units where possible.

Images/figures/charts/tables

We welcome the use of images to accompany papers.

A list of images/figures/charts/tables should be provided either at the end of the paper, or in a separate document with a caption for each. They should also be cited, where appropriate, in the main text (see figure 1). Captions should take the following form:



Figure 1: An example of an image used in a paper submitted to the Nuclear Future.

All images should be provided as high resolution image files (at least 300dpi final size); original images are preferred. As a rule of thumb the image file should be at least 0.5Mb for use in print. Although poor resolution images may look reasonable on screen, they do not print well. Images embedded into word documents have been compressed, reducing their quality.

To ensure your images can be used, please only provide those with high resolution.

Referencing

The paper should provide references where appropriate using a numbering system in square brackets [1] and in the format shown below. References should be listed at the end of the paper in the following format:

References

1. Incropera F.P, DeWitt D.P. Fundamentals of heat and mass transfer, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 2002, pp. 2-12. (for a book)
2. Wichtmann A. Super size turbine. Nuclear Engineering International. Vol 49. No 602. September 2004. pp. 44-46. (for a paper in journal)

Quotations

Use double quotation marks and colons, rather than commas, to introduce quotes, so it is *Clarke says: "We need to see a change."* and not *Clarke says, 'We need...'*.

Brackets

Please avoid putting large amounts of text in brackets and avoid using bracketed text frequently, as it disrupts the flow of your piece.

Use of capital letters and acronyms

Please try to limit the use of acronyms and remember to write them out at their first appearance.

Provide a list of acronyms at the end of the paper.

Limit the use of capital letters to the beginning of sentences and proper nouns. Excessive use of capitalisation can reduce the readability of a paper.

Bullet points

If the points in your bullets are not complete sentences, like this one, then:

- start each point with a lower case letter
- do not punctuate at the end of each point
- end the last bullet with a full stop.

If the bullets are each a complete sentence, then:

- Please begin each bullet with a capital letter.
- Please add a full stop at the end of each point.

Compound adjectives

Do not overuse, but if a compound adjective can be misread, use a hyphen, so it is *a cross-section of scientists*, not *a cross section of scientists*, for example.

Use a hyphen where words could be misunderstood, for example, *re-pair* or *un-ionised*.

Use hyphens for most words in which the prefix ends and the base word begins with the same vowel, for example *meta-analysis* or *co-occur*.

English spellings

Avoid Americanised spellings, so it is *recognise*, not *recognize*.

Passive voice

While it may not always be appropriate, to make your writing more immediate, avoid using the passive voice in your sentences. With the passive voice, the subject of a sentence is acted upon by the verb, instead of the subject performing the action.

Example of passive voice: *The formula **was altered [verb]** by the **team [subject]**.*

Example of active voice: *The **team altered** the formula.*

Paragraphs

Stick to one main idea or topic per paragraph and keep each paragraph to a maximum of four sentences.

Sentence length

Meaning is easily lost in complicated, over-long sentences. We recommend keeping each sentence to 40 words or fewer.