Reading about your research in a thesis requires you to communicate complex concepts to your readers as clearly and concisely as possible. There are four qualities of effective research writing.

**Clarity**
Clarity means your writing is clear and easily intelligible. To improve the clarity of your writing:

- Use words and phrases with which the reader is familiar
- Choose words that mean precisely what you intend
- Structure your sentences and paragraphs in a way that is easy to follow
- Use correct grammar, punctuation and spelling.

**Coherence**
Coherent writing is writing that is well organised and reader-friendly. To improve the coherence of your writing:

- Carefully plan the points you want to make
- Logically order your ideas
- Discuss one point in each paragraph
- Use appropriate transitions to show the relationship between paragraphs.

**Conciseness**
Conciseness means that you say what needs to be said in as few words as possible. To improve the conciseness of your writing:

- Discard all words that do not add to the meaning you want to communicate
- However, be careful not to omit words or change sentence structures essential to clarity and coherence.

**Academic diction**
The language of academic writing is formal and precise. While you should avoid language that is unnecessarily complicated or pretentious, you need to use words that communicate in a more sophisticated way than those used in everyday speech. The challenge for you as a research writer is to balance sophistication with readability.