

Today's young people will become tomorrow's scientists, and so their attitudes to science are **1 pretty** important. Unfortunately, **2 at this moment in time**, many young people are rejecting a career in science, preferring to become **3 businessmen** instead. **4 I think** one reason for this is that scientists are paid relatively poorly. **5 As you saw** earlier, people working in science in the United Kingdom **6 don't** earn as much as those in occupations **7 like** medicine or law. **8 Besides**, at the moment **9 it** can be difficult to find a job in science and this can **10 put off** young people from **11 thinking** about a career in science.

12 Quite a lot of studies have been conducted that try to identify other factors that influence attitudes to scientists and their work (e.g. Campbell, 1998; Adams, 2003). **13 What** are some of these factors? **14 Well**, one important factor is **15 how** scientists are represented in the media.

16 They're often shown as being socially isolated or even **17 mad!** Another factor is the quality of science teaching in school. If a science teacher is interesting and enthusiastic, **18 he** can have a **19 big** impact on whether a student goes on to study science at college or university. Unfortunately, in my experience **20 not many** science teachers are inspirational, although **21 the reader** may have had a different experience.

- a Avoid colloquial words and phrases (i.e. ones used in informal conversation rather than formal writing). 1 _____
- b Avoid long expressions where there are shorter ones with the same meaning. _____
- c Use a one-word verb rather than a multi-word verb where possible. _____
- d Unless you are referring specifically to men or to women, use gender-neutral language. _____
- e Avoid referring to the reader as 'you' or 'the reader'. _____
- f Avoid contracted forms (e.g. use 'is not' rather than 'isn't'). _____
- g Don't use 'like' instead of 'such as' when giving examples. _____
- h Don't use 'besides' to add another, stronger reason. _____
- i Avoid using questions to organise your writing. _____
- j Avoid using 'I' (think/believe etc.) when you express your opinion. _____
- k Use nominalisations where possible to express yourself more efficiently. _____
- l Don't use exclamation marks to show your surprise. _____
- m Use more appropriate negative forms ('few' rather than 'not many', 'little' rather than 'not much', 'no' rather than 'not any'). _____

8.2 In pairs, correct or improve the sections the tutor has commented on.

8.3 Look back at a piece of academic writing you have done recently and, using what you have learnt in this section, find ways to improve the style in your writing.

8.4 Look back at the slide titles in 6.1. Write a short essay of around 750 words on one of the topics using the following structure. Remember to provide evidence for claims you make, and pay particular attention to using an academic style in your writing.

Introduction: Describe the main problem(s) and briefly outline two or more possible solutions that have been suggested.

Body: Present these possible solutions in more detail and evaluate them.

Conclusion: Give your own position.