

Special Topic III

by

Most common type of mistake:

Use of *by* in passive sentences to introduce a “tool” used for some purpose.

(This mistaken usage is a direct translation of the Japanese *で* or *によって*.)

Examples

- (1) This equation was derived by the RG method.
- (2) In the early 1960s, similar effects were discovered by experiments on gel systems.
- (3) This theorem can be proved by the argument given in Sec. 2.
- (4) In this paper, light mirror nuclei are studied by the shell model.

Rewritten as active sentences

- (1) The RG method derives this equation.
- (2) In the early 1960s, experiments on gel systems discovered similar effects.
- (3) The argument given in Sec. 2 can prove this theorem.
- (4) In this paper, the shell model studies light mirror nuclei.

Corrected sentences

- (1) This equation was derived by the RG method.
- (1*) This equation was derived using the RG method.
- (2) In the early 1960s, similar effects were discovered by experiments on gel systems.
- (2*) In the early 1960s, similar effects were discovered /through/with/in/ experiments on gel systems.
- (3) This theorem can be proved by the argument given in Sec. 2.
- (3*) This theorem can be proved /using/with/by applying/ the argument given in Sec. 2.
- (4) In this paper, light mirror nuclei are studied by the shell model.
- (4*) In this paper, light mirror nuclei are studied /using/within/through application of/ the shell model.

詳しくは

『科学論文の英語用法百科』（京大出版、2004年）の第29章に参照。