

Mention

This revision is from a dissertation by a Thai-speaking student of Occupational Health

| Original | Revision |
|---|---|
| ... the scheme ... will be evaluated following the steps mentioned in the first chapter. | ... the scheme ... will be evaluated following the steps described in the first chapter. |

The point here is not a large one, but it is one that seems very often to cause problems for my students: to *mention* something does not take long, and shows that it is not of central importance. Here, as the student confirmed, the steps for evaluation were not merely *mentioned* in the first chapter, but *described* in some detail.

For students who would like to have a little practice with the words *mention* and *describe* I offer the following short exercise based on authentic data:

1. The language used to _____ experimental arrangements and results has to be neutral with respect to the theories tested. (describe, mention)
2. In the exchange between Siegel and Relman, no names were _____. (described, mentioned)
3. For Paracelsus and his followers, "chemicals" were inorganic materials. He used mercury to cure diseases and Debus _____, in detail, his use of antimony as a purgative. (describes, mentions)
4. They say they are interested in greenhouse gases, but the article gives few clues to their thinking. For example, carbon dioxide is not _____ at all. (described, mentioned)
5. In his paper, in 1929, Fleming _____ the possible use of penicillin as an antiseptic in surgical dressings, but the matter was taken no further. (described, mentioned)
6. We _____ a model, based on our data, for the way in which MAP2 and tau crosslink microtubules. (describe, mention)
7. The light's spectrum can be _____ in terms of a wave which is made by combining various amounts of different frequencies. (described, mentioned)
8. Every once in a while, when I _____ to students that I did my first programming with punched cards, and see the disbelief in their eyes, I am reminded how fast and how far computing has come. (describe, mention)
9. The first _____ of Christmas Day, as far as we know, was in the Roman calendar for the year 354. (description, mention)
10. Any complete _____ of an organism must include an account of its energy transactions. (description, mention)

[Check your answers](#)

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