Tips, ideas, resources in academic and English writing, and the experience of life as a researcher ...

Quote ...

“I’ve been working on all kinds of diseases for over 40 years and I almost feel bad admitting that, even though it has been difficult, it has presented an interesting opportunity. It feels like we’ve been training for this moment.”

Kari Stefánsson is the founder and CEO of deCODE, the genetics company that helped Iceland to test (for free) much of its population to help quash its outbreak.

Interesting tidbits ...
From the BBC - Why you might be smarter than you think
“The concept of human intelligence has changed a lot over the past 100 years. Could broadening our perception of what it means to be intelligent change how we view human potential, and ultimately make us more successful at solving the problems facing the world?”

From Science - Lessons from the crucible of crisis

From Bistandsaktuelt (in Norwegian) - Erfaren hjelpearbeider sjokkert etter unikt innblikk i FNs ebolainnsats: – WHO må endre kurs for å lykkes i kampen mot koronaviruset

From the LSE Blog - To rediscover their public value universities can learn from the free culture movement

Research talking point ...
From Nature – Sustained suppression
Include the true value of nature when rebuilding economies after coronavirus

From Science – Both/and problem in an either/or world
“The tyranny of either/or is that we only survive on our own. The promise of both/and is that the world is imperfect but we’re all in this together.”
An intrinsic oscillator drives the blood stage cycle of the malaria parasite Plasmodium falciparum
Effective containment explains subexponential growth in recent confirmed COVID-19 cases in China
Modeling infectious disease dynamics
U.S. ‘Warp Speed’ vaccine effort comes out of the shadows
Preserve Global South’s research capacity

From The Lancet - Remdesivir for COVID-19: challenges of underpowered studies
What policy makers need to know about COVID-19 protective immunity
(heart-breaking) The COVID-19 response for vulnerable people in places affected by conflict and humanitarian crises
In the aftermath: the legacy of measles in Samoa

@elinorb15 Tips and ideas welcome! Send to: elinor.bartle@uib.no
Archives
**Communication ...**
Alan Alda Centre for Communicating Science: *Clear, Empathic Communication in a Pandemic & Always (A Two-Part Webinar Series)*

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**Grammar ...**
*English is a crazy language. More English-isms ...*

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

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**Best practice ...**
From *Nature* - *Pandemic researchers — recruit your own best critics*

> “With research moving faster than ever, scientists should invest in reducing their own bias and allowing others to transparently evaluate how much pushback their ideas have been subjected to. A scientific claim is as reliable as only the most severe criticism it has been able to withstand.”

*Meet this super-spotter of duplicated images in science papers*
*What can you do to make your lab greener?*

From the LSE Blog - *A PhD is not just a degree — it is an opportunity to develop the skills needed to deliver impact*

*The Grammar of Impact — What can we learn from REF 2014 about writing impact case studies?*

*although this is written for UK grant writing, the points are universally relevant*

**VIRTUAL NOT VIRAL** - NO PANIC IN THE #PHDPANDEMIC - curated links to helpful resources and strategies

*New England Journal of Medicine* — free access to *all journal content related to COVID-19*

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**Mark your calendar!**

The next mid-way evaluations are:
- 28 May: Patricia Lelo
- 3 June: Fatemeh Chalabianloo & Ravi Upadhyay
- 10 June: Jasmin Shrestha

The next PhD Defences (and Trial Lectures) are:
- 4 June: Anselme Sanou
- 8 & 9 June: Anneli Eriksson

The next CISMAC webinar will be 3 June

[@elinorb15](https://twitter.com/elinorb15) Tips and ideas welcome! Send to: [elinor.bartle@uib.no](mailto:elinor.bartle@uib.no)