Academic Language

There are several things to keep in mind when writing academic papers.

Avoid contractions: Students who fail the exam **can't** enter the university. (no)
                       Students who fail the exam **cannot** enter the university. (yes)

Use formal register: The government needs to **get rid of** the deficit. (no)
                       The government needs to **eliminate** the deficit. (yes)

Avoid "you"   There are several steps **you** can take to find housing. (no)
                       There are several steps **students** can take to find housing. (yes)

Don't use "etc."   Writing well involves planning, drafting, editing, **etc. (no)**
                        Writing well involves planning, drafting, and editing. (yes)

Don't use !!!!   It was a beautiful day! I felt happy!! (no)

Don't use . . . I don't know why. . . I felt bored . . . . (no)

Word Choice/Tone

Adjust the language to achieve an academic tone.

1) I couldn't believe my eyes. One guy was hitting another guy and blood was coming
    out of his head like crazy.

2) After I got caught cheating on the test, I decided I would never get myself in a mess
    like that again.

3) The author uses really simple terminology which makes it totally easy to understand
    what he is talking about.

4) The actor's performance in the role was awesome; lots of people clapped for him at
     the end.

5) When Napster came on the scene, some musicians lost a ton of money

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