

Quality Assessment

To find out the journal-specific criteria, open the journal's homepage and select 'About the journal' from the menu: [IOP science - Journals](#).



We will ask you to score the manuscript using different criteria. These vary depending on which journal you are reviewing for. It is useful to comment on these criteria in the free-text section of the reviewer report form. Criteria you may be asked to score and comment on:

	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
<p>Originality*</p> <p>A measure of the novelty of the ideas and techniques reported in the manuscript compared to the existing literature.</p>	No new ideas, findings, or techniques. The work is a replication of existing research.	The ideas, findings, or techniques presented are a minimal advancement of existing research.	The research advances a particular idea, finding or technique.	Ideas, findings and techniques are mostly original compared to the field.	Completely original ideas, findings, approaches to problems or experimental techniques.
<p>Scientific rigour</p> <p>A measure of how well the research has been carried out; and whether the results have been appropriately analysed and discussed.</p>	Very few details of the methods and results were included.	Some details of the method and analysis were included both other sections were missing.	There are clear descriptions of how the work was carried out. These need additional information to be fully reproducible.	All necessary details of the methods and results are presented and can be reproduced. Some points require more evidence or explanation.	All necessary details of the method and results are presented and can be reproduced. The analysis is fully explained and insightful.
<p>Significance</p> <p>A measure of the level of advance and likely impact of the reported results and/or approach within the article's immediate field (and possibly beyond).</p>	No insight or advancement in the field. Manuscripts likely to make no impact on other researchers.	Minimal insight or advancement, may only be significant to a niche topic in the immediate field.	Insight in the field, advancement of the research, or may impact other research fields.	Provides a lot of insight in the field or a significant advancement.	Exemplary insight and advancement in the field, may provide an advancement for the wider community.
<p>Clarity</p> <p>A measure of the structure and quality of writing within the article, and how well the authors have conveyed the required information.</p>	The manuscript is written in very poor or broken English, is very difficult to follow, or is unintelligible.	The manuscript is written in poor English, or is difficult to follow.	The manuscript needs significant editing, but it is understandable.	Some small improvements or additions could be made to enhance the readers' understanding.	The manuscript requires no/very minimal editing.

*Please note – some of our journals do not ask for the assessment of a manuscript's novelty. In these circumstances, we instead welcome manuscripts that demonstrate scientific validity and a strong methodology. In doing so, we aim to be more inclusive of the types of research we publish, including null and negative results, or replication studies.