EDITORIAL


are often its reviewers. This is especially true if a manuscript receives an unfavorable evaluation. But how justified is this negative perception? Admittedly, some reviewers may not be so nice, get personal, or presume to know it all better. But in my experience as editor, I have found this journal to have many exceptionally good reviewers. They spend a lot of time scrutinizing submitted manuscripts, giving precise and constructive recommendations as to how they could be improved. Still, some authors feel poorly treated. Can it be that educated individuals look at the same subject and have opposite opinions? Absolutely!

These authors have studied hard, developed a brilliant idea, and worked long hours to come up with a new solution to an old problem. But these enthusiasts may not have been the best writing students. Their skills did not improve later because, more than likely, they were not taught how to write scientific manuscripts during their undergraduate education or postgraduate training, as they should have been. And consider that the most frequent exposure to professional scientific material comes from reading. It is here where a vicious circle starts: Poorly written articles and books are consumed and serve as templates. As bad as this situation is, it is worse still when authors are not submitting their findings in their mother language, but in English, which is more (less often) or less (more often) familiar to them.

Authors, for one moment, put yourselves in the position of a reviewer. He or she reads your words and struggles to understand what you wanted to express, notices that key references and information are missing, reads misleading English syntax, and then more and more, and this over long and longer pages. At this point, you expect the reviewer to be as enthusiastic as you were when you clicked the “Save” button the final time? Instead of being as enthusiastic, your reviewer confronts you with questions and propositions. And all to make your article fit for publication in an acknowledged journal such as the World Journal of Orthodontics, which hopefully will happen.

Because of all their efforts, the reviewers of the World Journal of Orthodontics . . . should be highly respected!

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Editor-in-Chief