Writing Introductions, Results, and Conclusions

PROBLEM SET

1. Write a results section for a scientific paper about federal outlays, describing the recent distribution across major categories of outlays (figure 7.2b in *Writing about Numbers*, 133) and how the level and distribution have changed since 1950 (figure 7.7, ibid., 141). Organize the topics into paragraphs with good introductory sentences, then describe the patterns and cite evidence from the charts.

2. Write an introductory paragraph for a general interest article about trends and differences in federal outlays in the United States. List the kinds of background information you would incorporate, and suggest useful types of quantitative comparisons to highlight why the topic is interesting or important.

3. Write a results section for a scientific paper about AIDS knowledge by language group (table 6.2 in *Writing about Numbers*, 110). Summarize general patterns for differences across language groups and across knowledge topic areas, and report results of statistical significance tests.

4. Write a concluding section for a scientific paper about AIDS knowledge by language groups to follow your results section from the preceding question. List the types of background information you would use to show how findings of the study might be applied to health education programs in the United States.