



University of Catania

Scientific Writing Resources

Words and phrases that can confuse

Over - During





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Over - During

Both **OVER** and **DURING** have similar means and are connected with periods of time. It is the duration that is different.

DURING indicates a shorter period than the whole period and we do not know the start, end or duration.

OVER indicates the whole period of time.

- **During** the weekend I went to the cinema (for a few hours).
 - Mechanically ventilated animals were anesthetized with isoflurane **during** instrumentation...(at some moment).
 - I worked **over** the weekend (for all the weekend).
 - Plasmid DNA was prepared from the **over**-night culture (all the night).
 - Germany will further expand renewable energy **over** the next decade (for all the next 10 years).
 - Worldwide, record breaking rainfall events have been on the rise **over** the past 30 years (for all the last 30 years).
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