



**i.e.**      **e.g.**





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## Scientific Writing Resources

**i.e.**

**e.g.**

First of all both of these are Latin expressions:

**i.e. id est** (that is, namely)

**e.g. exempli gratia** (for example, for the sake of example, such as)

They are not interchangeable and you need to remember a couple of points.

**i.e.** gives further, precise information

**e.g.** gives only an example.

- **You have 21 days holiday, i.e. the first 3 weeks in August.** (here you get precise information concerning the exact 21 days)
- **There are many things to do in the evening, e.g. go to the cinema, a restaurant, join a club.** (here you get some of the many examples, perhaps you will not do any of these examples)



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**i.e.**

**e.g.**

Modern usage promotes the exclusion of the full stops:

**ie eg**

USA usage puts a comma after: **ie, i.e.**, UK usage does not **ie eg**.

Do not use **etc.** with these abbreviations

N.B. Some scientific journals, ie Nature, do not use these abbreviations but prefer **Namely** and **Such as**

Remember, always check in the journal where you want to publish for their usage.