

Article Checklist for *Elements* Editors

For EACH thematic article in your issue of *Elements*, please confirm the following items.

Refer to the Guest Editor and Author guidelines for more details.

✓	ITEMS/CONTENT
	Title – short, engaging, catchy
	Author(s) – full name, address, and email included
	Abstract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximum 120 words • this is a summary of the article—not an intro paragraph
	Keywords – 4–6 words
	Text style <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written as a magazine review article, not a scientific journal article. • Does the article present a good introduction to this subject for someone unfamiliar with the topic? • Can it be understood by an upper-level undergraduate student? • Is there a logical “flow” to the article? Does it move smoothly from one paragraph/section to the next? • Is it too technical? Boring? Wordy?
	English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammatically correct sentences? Correct punctuation usage?
	Jargon (words used only by a specific group/discipline) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be avoided • If used, check that the words are clearly defined using simple language
	Figures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-resolution (fonts are smooth, concise lines/arrows, crisp images, etc.) • Eye catching, colorful, informative • Color usage (can the color blind see the relevant features?)
	Figure Captions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addresses each panel in the figure • Figure & caption can stand alone without associated text
	References <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 30 • Confirm that any references in tables/figures are included in reference list
	Word count (for 6 page article) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 6100 words (this total includes all the text, abstract, titles, acknowledgments, references, captions, and 200-250 words for each figure)