

The background is a solid blue color. Scattered across the top and bottom edges are numerous triangles of various sizes and colors, including orange, light blue, and light grey. Some triangles are pointing upwards, while others are pointing downwards.

# Open Science IN PERIL

Script



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# A must read before the script

This pack contains two example script that can be used, depending on how many people are hosting the gameplay. We recommend doing this with two or three hosts, given the amount of items that one needs to pay attention to during the gameplay and the number of items to prepare the game.

From our experience, players are very focused on the game itself, and can get very competitive. However, the time after the game often provides a very safe and open space for people to discuss topics from the game, or things that are connected to the game.

So, here are some examples of topics to discuss after the game:

- APCs and equity
- APC costs rising year on year
- Green and Diamond routes to OA
- Predatory publishers
- Questionable publication practices
- Open Access in AHSS
- Open Access in STEM

## Example Script 1

*Original script from the launch of Open Science in Peril at the Munin Conference in 2023*

**This script is for three hosts:**

**Host 1:** Head of Research Dissemination

**Host 2:** Admin Assistant

**Host 3:** Research Assistant

**Head of Research:** “Welcome to the Open Science in Peril game! Today is the actual launch of this game, so you are our very first test group, which means if there are any things along the way that don’t work or if there is any feedback you want to share, please do let us know.

I am **Host 1** (*change to the name of the person taking this role*), and I am your host for this game. Or... Well, I am actually the Head of Research Dissemination. And you’re all researchers. **Host 2** (*change to the name of the person taking this role*) here is our Admin Assistant, who will take care of our time and our budget. **Host 3** (*change to the name of the person taking this role*) is our Research Assistant, and she will be doing all the stuff I don’t want to do.

***If you have yet to create teams and editorial board:***

**Host 1:** “Before we begin the game, we will need to divide you into research groups, and we also need an editorial board who will help me judge the answers of the research groups. The audience will not actively participate in answering questions but will be included in other ways. The teams will answer questions in this game-show-style game. We will do this by handing out stickers randomly. If you get an Open Science in Peril sticker, you will join one of three teams who will be standing here. If you get an accepted/rejected sticker you will remain on the editorial board, and can take a seat here.”

***If you have created teams and editorial board:***

**Host 1:** “I’ll give you a couple of minutes to get organised, and if you do not want the role you’ve been assigned, you can swap with someone else if they also want to. Once you’re organised into teams, you need to decide who will be your spokesperson, who will also press the buzzer. Please do not press the buzzers yet. You can also decide on a team name, that you can write down on one of these whiteboards”.

**Host 1:** “Ok, so it looks like we are ready to start! We’ve got three wonderful teams in front of us!

So, now to the game rules. In a nutshell, each team is trying to win money to get enough to afford to publish in an Open Access journal.

You can see there are a range of categories on the list here. If you, like me, have not seen the US tv game show Jeopardy, you might think “Well, how will this work?” – I will explain. We will start with one team, who will pick a category and a corresponding amount. I will read out the question, and all teams can press their buzzer to question the answer. The first team to buzz will get to answer. The team with the right question will not only win the amount on the answer they’ve chosen, but get the opportunity to pick the next question.

There will be 30 seconds to question the answer. And remember, we’re competing for funds to publish in an Open Access journal! We will have two rounds, and then we will move on to the final question. After each round our Admin Assistant will let us know how each team is doing.

Oh, I almost forgot... our editorial board! Valued members of the editorial board, you will each have an accept/reject card. This card has a lot of power. In some cases our teams might not answer questions extremely accurately, and I will need your help to make a decision. So, if I look to you guys for help if I should accept or reject an answer from the teams, please hold up your card to make a decision. We might run into situations where not everyone will agree, of course, but the majority wins. Well ultimately, I decide.

So, if you’re still confused. Let’s just show you how it will work. Host 2, can you step in to Team 1 here to assist me please?

***[Host 2 comes to do the test question, you can make anything up here]***

Great, thank you! Ok, so we’ve now tested one of the buzzers. Just to make sure we all can separate each buzzer sounds, let’s hear what they sound like

***[test buzzers one by one so everyone can hear what they sound like]***

Perfect. Are we ready to start?

**[Play Round 1 until Host 2 interrupts]**

***Once Round 1 is completed, the main host can ask the teams questions about themselves while Host 3 is setting up Round 2. Host 1 will help once the below scenario has been played out.***

**[Host 2 walks up to Host 1]** Hate to be the one to tell you this, but our institution has decided on an organisational design change...

**Host 1:** "Okay well I'm in the middle of giving out research funding and.."

**Host 2:** "I've been instructed to tell you you're being replaced..."

**Host 1:** "Who is replacing me??"

**Host 2:** "Umm.. me! Starting right now. I'm the interim Head of Research Dissemination until we find an appropriate candidate.. or restructure the role!"

**Host 1:** "So can I finish the game??"

**Host 2:** "Erm.. they're clearing out your office right now. You can't stay in this role, but I guess you can go back to your permanent contract at timekeeping.."

**[Host 1 leaves to take over scorekeeping]**

**Host 2/Admin Assistant:** "Okay so now that the reorganisation has begun, I'll have to take over. Moving on to Round 2. The rules stay the same, but we're going to INCREASE THE FUNDING!". But first, let's get to know our teams.

**[Play Round 2]**

### **Optional final host switch:**

After reaching a time limit or question limit in Round 2, you can change the host a third time with this twist:

*Research Assistant has been diligently working for the game - moving pieces, adding scores, etc. They are 'seen and not heard'. At a certain defined point, they will write on a white/blackboard 'Our budget is gone'. It may take Host 2 a few minutes to notice that the Research Assistant has written this.*

Once they do,

**Host 2** says "What?! We've run out of money?? But.. but.. I doubled the funding! What does this mean?? Do I still have a job??"

*Host 2 passes the hosting duties to the Research Assistant, and mimics calling their superiors.*

**Host 3/Research Assistant:** *[quietly]* "Um...ok...as usual I get stuck with the crap work. I guess it is time for the final round".

## Approaching Final Round:

*Recap how the teams are doing. If any teams have a negative total you can ask them not to play the final round.*

## Final Round:

**Host 2 or 3:** In a few seconds, we will reveal the final answer. Your team will have 1 minute to write your answer on your whiteboard. It is one answer per team.

The final question is: this amount is the ideal APC. Your time starts now!

**Host 2/3:** Let's take a look at your answers. At this point we would like to ask the editorial board to weigh in with their opinions. You can do this by raising reject or accept cards. You can only accept one answer, so you need to reject two.

Team X has the most money going towards their APC fund. They have indicated that the ideal APC is X. What does the editorial board think of this?

Team Y is next. They have suggested that the ideal APC is Y. What is the consensus?

Finally, Team Z has Z amount as their question. What do you think?

And now the moment you have all been waiting for. The winner is team X.

Team X has the most money in their fund they can choose the journal they wish to publish in. Your options are:

**[One of the other hosts will show the teams and Editorial Board the journal envelopes one by one]** Journal 1, Journal 2, Journal 3, Journal 4, Journal 5

Which will it be?

Team Y chooses next.

Team Z chooses last.

Team X could you please reveal what your envelope includes about your journal

Team Y could you please reveal what your envelope includes about your journal

Team Z could you please reveal what your envelope includes about your journal

Congratulations on your publication! What an accomplishment! Thank you for playing Open Science in Peril!

Now, let's discuss!

## Example Script 2

**This script is for two hosts**

**Host 1:** Head of Research Dissemination - acts as game host throughout

**Host 2:** Admin Assistant - manages time and budget throughout

**Host 1/Head of Research:** “Welcome to the Open Science in Peril game! I am **Host 1** (*change to the name of the person taking this role*), and I am your host for this game. Or... Well, I am actually the Head of Research Dissemination. And you’re all researchers. **Host 2** (*change to the name of the person taking this role*) here is our Admin Assistant, who will take care of our time and our budget.

**If you have yet to create teams and editorial board:**

“Before we begin the game, we will need to divide you into research groups, and we also need an editorial board who will help me judge the answers of the research groups. The audience will not actively participate in answering questions but will be included in other ways. The teams will answer questions in this game-show-style game. We will do this by handing out stickers randomly. If you get an Open Science in Peril sticker, you will join one of three teams who will be standing here. If you get an accepted/rejected sticker you will remain on the editorial board, and can take a seat here.”

**If you have created teams and editorial board:**

“I’ll give you a couple of minutes to get organised, and if you do not want the role you’ve been assigned, you can swap with someone else if they also want to. Once you’re organised into teams, you need to decide who will be your spokesperson, who will also press the buzzer. Please do not press the buzzers yet. You can also decide on a team name, that you can write down on one of these whiteboards”.

**Host 1/Head of Research:** “Ok, so it looks like we are ready to start! We’ve got three wonderful teams in front of us! **[Introduce team names]**

So, now to the game rules. In a nutshell, each team is trying to win money to get enough to afford to publish in an Open Access journal.

You can see there are a range of categories on the list here. If you, like me, have not seen the US tv game show Jeopardy, you might think “Well, how will this work?” – I will explain. We will start with one team, who will pick a category and a corresponding amount. I will read out the question, and all teams can press their buzzer to question the answer. The first team to buzz will get to answer. The team with the right question will not only win the amount on the answer they’ve chosen, but get the opportunity to pick the next question.

There will be 30 seconds to question the answer. And remember, we’re competing for funds to publish in an Open Access journal! We will have two rounds, and then we will move on to the final question. After each round our Admin Assistant will let us know how each team is doing.

Oh, I almost forgot... our editorial board! Valued members of the editorial board, you will each have an accept/reject card. This card has a lot of power. In some cases our teams might not answer questions extremely accurately, and I will need your help to make a decision. So, if I look to you guys for help if I should accept or reject an answer from the teams, please hold up your card to make a decision. We might run into situations where not everyone will agree, of course, but the majority wins. Well ultimately, I decide.”

“So, if you’re still confused. Let’s just show you how it will work. **Host 2**, can you step in to Team 1 here to assist me please?

**[Host 2 comes to do a test question, you can make anything up here]**

**Host 1:** Great, thank you! Ok, so we’ve now tested one of the buzzers. Just to make sure we all can separate each buzzer sounds, let’s hear what they sound like

**[test buzzers one by one so everyone can hear what they sound like]**

**Host 1:** Perfect. Are we ready to start?”

**[Play Round 1]**

**Once Round 1 is completed, the main host can ask the teams questions about themselves while Host 2 is setting up Round 2.**

**Host 1:** Okay, now for Round 2.. Let’s INCREASE THE FUNDING!

**[Play Round 2]**



## Approaching Final Round:

**Recap how the teams are doing. If any teams have a negative total you can ask them not to play the final round.**

## Final Round:

**Host 1:** In a few seconds, we will reveal the final answer. Your team will have 1 minute to write your answer on your whiteboard. It is one answer per team.

The final question is: this amount is the ideal APC. Your time starts now!

**Host 1:** Let's take a look at your answers. At this point we would like to ask the editorial board to weigh in with their opinions. You can do this by raising reject or accept cards. You can only accept one answer, so you need to reject two.

Team X has the most money going towards their APC fund. They have indicated that the ideal APC is X. What does the editorial board think of this?

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Finally, Team Z has Z amount as their question. What do you think?

And now the moment you have all been waiting for. The winner is team X.

Team X has the most money in their fund they can choose the journal they wish to publish in. Your options are:

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