Get ready for Academic Success!

Follow the academic writing process

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Learning Outcomes

- What is academic writing and its features
- Know the process to follow for academic writing
- Be able to get started on your assignments
Academic Writing
What is academic writing?

Academic writing is:
• Formal
• Objective
• Precise
• Accurate
• Concise, and
• Easy to understand.

Academic writing is usually written in the third person and contains evidence and in-text references.
What does academic writing look like?
**Topic**
Break down the task.

**Write final draft**
Focus: Sentence level – grammar, punctuation, spelling, presentation.

**Write second draft**
Focus: Paragraph level – cohesion, referencing, integration of evidence.

**Research Strategy**
Finding recent, credible sources.

**Write first draft**
Focus: Structure, content and order of information is the priority.

**Active reading and note-taking.**

**Paraphrasing and grouping main ideas/information.**

**Finalise draft essay plan**
Toggling back and forth over the first 4 steps.
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Focus: Sentence level – grammar, punctuation, spelling, presentation.

- Thinking
- Planning
- More planning
- Organising
- Reviewing
- Writing
- Re-writing

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**Finalise draft essay plan**
Toggling back and forth other the first 4 steps.
1. Topic
   - Break down the task.

2. Research Strategy
   - Finding recent, credible sources.

3. Write first draft
   - Focus: Structure, content and order of information is the priority.

4. Write second draft
   - Focus: Paragraph level - cohesion, referencing, integration of evidence.

5. Write final draft
   - Focus: Sentence level - grammar, punctuation, spelling, presentation.

6. Active reading and note-taking.
    - Thinking
    - Planning
    - More planning
    - Organising
    - Reviewing
    - Writing
    - Re-writing

7. Paraphrasing and grouping main ideas/information.

8. Finalise draft essay plan
   - Toggling back and forth over the first 4 steps.
Introduction
- Orientate the reader
- Identify the focus/purpose
- Outline scope
- State thesis

Body
- Topic sentence 1
- Supporting details
- Concluding sentence 1
- Topic sentence 2
- Supporting details
- Concluding sentence 2
- Topic sentence 3
- Supporting details
- Concluding sentence 3

Conclusion
- Restate thesis
- Summarise argument
Writing the first draft

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- **Write final draft**
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- **Research Strategy**
  - Finding recent, credible sources.

- **Active reading and note-taking**
  - Thinking
  - Planning
  - More planning
  - Organising
  - Reviewing
  - Writing
  - Re-writing

- **Paraphrasing and grouping main ideas/information**

- **Finalise draft essay plan**
  - Toggling back and forth over the first 4 steps.

First drafts don't have to be perfect. They just have to be written.
Writing the second draft

- **Topic**
  - Break down the task.

- **Research Strategy**
  - Finding recent, credible sources.

- **Active reading and note-taking.**

- **Paraphrasing and grouping main ideas/information.**

- **Write final draft**
  - Focus: Sentence level – grammar, punctuation, spelling, presentation.

- **Write second draft**

- **Write first draft**
  - Focus: Structure, content and order of information is the priority.

- **Finalise draft essay plan**
  - Toggling back and forth over the first 4 steps.

- **✓ Thinking**
- **✓ Planning**
- **✓ More planning**
- **✓ Organising**
- **✓ Reviewing**
- **✓ Writing**
- **✓ Re-writing**
Parts of a Paragraph

Topic Sentence: This sentence tells the reader the main idea, or what the paragraph will be about.

Supporting Sentence One: This sentence gives specific details relating to the main idea.

Supporting Sentence Two: This sentence gives another specific detail relating to the main idea.

Supporting Sentence Three: This sentence gives more specific details relating to the main idea.

Concluding Sentence: This sentence refers to the topic sentence and sums up the main idea of the paragraph.

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Writing the final draft

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Now that you have an overview of the academic writing process, you can work through the modules to drill down on each aspect and complete your academic assignments. The modules will use an essay task as an example throughout.