

Academic Writing for intermediate and advanced learners of English

Course Description

This course has been developed to help students with their written assignments in English at both secondary school and university level. Students who are not native speakers of English often find the written demands of their courses very challenging. In addition to the vocabulary of academic English they have to learn new conventions of style, referencing and format. Furthermore, their teachers/lecturers are often concerned by their lack of critical thinking skills, and also mention students' failure to answer the specific question and their inability to develop answers logically. Issues around vocabulary, plagiarism and referencing skills are significant additional worries. This course sets out to address these problems directly. It recognises that while students are not expected to write perfect English, accurate and effective language use is an essential skill for such students. The course is highly practical and uses lots of examples and tasks.

A kurzus olyan diákoknak szól, akik a közép- és felsőfokú oktatásban tanulnak és fejleszteni szeretnék az angol írásbeli készségüket. A nem angol anyanyelvűek számára gyakran kihívást jelent az angol vagy részben angol kurzusok teljesítése. A tudományos írás szókincse mellett meg kell tanulniuk azokat a konvenciókat, stílusokat, formai szabályokat, amelyek erre a típusú írásra jellemzőek. A tanárok gyakran említik a kritikai gondolkodás hiányát és a logikus válaszok alkotásának sikertelenségét, amelyen a kurzus javítani szándékozik. A képzés célja, hogy megtanítsa a pontos és hatékony tudományos nyelvhasználatot. Gyakorlat-központú képzés lévén a képzés számos feladaton keresztül segít a tananyag elsajátításában.

Every Friday, starting date: 23 of April, 2021, 15:00 & 16.10

Contents:

1. The writing process: features of academic writing, finding sources
In this unit students will be introduced to different types and features of academic writing. The main structural components and the main characteristics (special vocabulary, sentence structure, referencing) of these academic texts will be discussed.
2. The writing process: critical approaches, plagiarism
In this unit different academic texts will be shown to the students and they will be encouraged to approach them critically; the main critical points will be highlighted and discussed. Strategies to avoid plagiarism will be presented and practiced.
3. The writing process: outlines and key points, paraphrasing and summarising
In this unit some of the main challenges of academic writing will be discussed which includes planning of the text, using the literature effectively and building arguments via previous studies.
4. The writing process: references and quotations, structuring
One of the main characteristics of academic writing is the connection of a study with previous results: this unit will teach the whats and hows of referencing, quotations and structuring.
5. Elements of writing: arguments, cohesion, comparison

This unit will explore the powerful skill of arguing in written form by teaching useful strategies of building a text. It will also discuss the ways of inserting the critical approach to the text.

6. Elements of writing: style, visual information

Academic texts are characterised by a special style which will be discussed in this unit. Visuals (tables, figures) are often part of academic presentation and students will be introduced to the systematic and effective presentation of the results with these visuals in this unit.

7. Accuracy: academic vocabulary

Besides macro component of the text, language is very important in academic writing, therefore this unit will be dedicated to accuracy and the special vocabulary of academic writing.

8. Accuracy: grammar, tenses

This unit will be dedicated to the main grammatical structures used in academic writing, such as passives and impersonating.

9. Formal letters, emails, CVs

Academic life is often connected with applying for positions and scholarship which includes writing emails, CVs, etc. This unit will introduce students to the main components of these topics.

10. Designing and reporting questionnaires

Finally, students will be introduced to the design and development of some powerful research instruments, such as surveys and questionnaires. The unit will also discuss the ways of reporting on results collected via these tools.

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