

Importance of Academic Writing Skills at the University

**Ingrid S Surono
BINUS University**



English in Higher Education
Jakarta, March 12, 2015

What is academic writing ?

- **Academic writing is formal and follows some standard conventions**
- **Each academic discipline has its own specialist vocabulary which will be expected to be learnt and used in writing**

What is the point of academic writing ?

- The substance of academic writing must be based on solid evidence and **logical analysis, and presented as a concise, accurate argument**



Differences Between Academic and Personal Writing

Personal Writing	Academic Writing
Tells a story	Comments, evaluates, analyses
Non-technical vocabulary	Subject-specific vocabulary
'I' at the centre	'I' as observer and commentator
Information comes from the writers experience	Information comes from sources and refers to what others say
Personal views and feelings	Evidence and arguments
	Conventions for citation

Main Problems

- non-acquaintance components of any kind of academic writing
- Academic writing requires accurate grammar



Writing is at the very heart of academic life

- interrelated skills of **writing and reasoning** as the two most important skills for success in higher education
- Appropriate academic writing presents a polished and professional image.
- logic and beauty of language, a good command to help thinking more clearly and deeply
- Have a positive impact on every aspect of academic work

Journal and Country Rank 1996-2013, Source : Scopus

Rank	Country	Documents	Citable documents	Citations	Self-Citations	Citations per Document	H index
1	United States	7846972	7281575	152984430	72993120	22.02	1518
2	China	3129719	3095159	14752062	8022637	6.81	436
3	United Kingdom	2141375	1932907	37450384	8829739	19.82	934
5	Japan	1929402	1874277	23633462	6832173	13.01	694
9	India	868719	825025	5666045	1957907	8.83	341
10	Spain	857158	800214	10584940	2629669	15.08	531
11	Australia	782149	723460	11447009	2449459	18.24	583
12	South Korea	658602	642983	5770844	1281366	11.49	375
16	Taiwan	446282	434662	3993380	930383	11.35	300
31	Hong Kong	180958	172610	2448025	340370	15.53	325
32	Singapore	171037	163153	2051237	278461	14.42	308
37	Malaysia	125084	121714	497646	133502	8.68	145
43	Thailand	95690	91925	790474	134626	12.09	190
46	Pakistan	70208	67491	328281	94655	6.95	130
61	Indonesia	25481	24461	185695	20750	11.86	126
62	Bangladesh	23028	22286	147791	28986	9.26	112
66	Viet Nam	20460	19854	161813	23690	12.89	122
70	Philippines	15419	14601	179820	19058	15.09	131



Home

Journal Rankings

Journal Search

Country Rankings

Country Search

Compare

Map Generator

Help

About Us

Country Search

Select Region > Asiatic Region >

Indonesia

Subject Area: All

Refresh

	1996-2013
H Index	126
Documents	25.481
Citable Documents	24.461
Citations	185.695
Self Citations	20.750
Citations per Document	7,29

Related product



English in Higher Education
Jakarta, March 12, 2015

Importance of English language

- Manuscripts with extensive English language deficiencies will be returned to the author without being reviewed

What to do

- to find a partner to support the writing process
- mentoring roles in each University, by finding people that will engage in dialogue to make academic writing better.

Support for Academic writing skills : role of The British Council

the most crucial requirement for Indonesian academia to grow as a scholar, is support from native English speakers

- **compulsory English for academic writing curriculum is urgently needed**
- **Appropriate academic writing modules**
- **Training/workshop for researchers**
- **Coaching in Academic writing**

Coaching, a crucial role in advancing academic success

- **Academic editing**
- **coaching helps to develop both writing skills and confidence.**
- **some of the best academic science articles rely on words not only to tell, but also to show meanings**
- **one-on-one to teach what that meant and how to achieve it, instead of just editing the draft of manuscripts**
- **fee-paying proof-reading services to improve the standard of English in manuscripts for non-native speakers at reasonable price supported by funding scheme from the Directorate General of Higher Education**

Recommendation

a unit on academic writing service at the Directorate General of Higher Education, with the support of The British Council to assist manuscripts or articles that are prepared for publication in academic English

English in Higher Education
Jakarta, March 12, 2015



**Your kind attention is highly
appreciated**

English in Higher Education
Jakarta, March 12, 2015

