

## **Week 1: Introduction to Academic Writing**

### **Lesson 2: Purpose, Types, and Features of Academic Writing**

#### **Course Video 2: Purposes of Academic Writing**

#### **Study Notes**

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##### **Study Notes: Purpose of Academic Writing**

###### **1. Engaging With an Academic Topic or Problem**

Academic writing helps researchers:

- Study academic issues, topics, or problems
- Describe experiments, findings, and observations
- Compare new findings with existing research
- Share results with the academic community

Example:

If your lab results differ from previous studies, you must write about them so others can test, verify, or question them.

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###### **2. Conveying Ideas to the Academic Community**

Academic writing allows you to share:

- Theories
- Hypotheses
- New ideas
- Insights from experiments
- Knowledge gained through reading or experience

Sharing helps others:

- Build on your work
- Test your ideas
- Use your discoveries (e.g., an eco-friendly, long-lasting battery)

Academic writing ensures ideas are communicated clearly, formally, and professionally.

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###### **3. Informing, Explaining, Persuading, Analyzing, and Evaluating**

Academic writing supports a variety of functions:

- Informing: giving accurate information
- Explaining: making complex ideas understandable
- Persuading: presenting arguments logically
- Analyzing: breaking down ideas or data
- Evaluating: judging the value or effectiveness of ideas

These functions require formal structure, evidence, and accepted academic norms.

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#### 4. Sharing Knowledge or Research Findings

Academic writing enables experts (e.g., professors, researchers) to:

- Share what they know
- Publish findings in journals
- Present new discoveries to learners and other researchers

The writing must meet community expectations so others can learn from it.

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#### 5. Verifying Claims Made by Peers

Other researchers examine your claims to check:

- If your results are accurate
- If your method works in different situations
- If your ideas hold up under scrutiny

Verification strengthens or challenges existing knowledge.

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#### 6. Examining Scientific Methods

Academic writing documents:

- How experiments are conducted
- Which tools and procedures were used
- How data was collected

This allows others to:

- Repeat the method

- Test it in a different lab
- Confirm or question the results

Clear writing ensures experiments are reproducible.

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## 7. Conveying a Point of View

Academic writing allows authors to:

- Present personal viewpoints or arguments
- Support these views with evidence
- Persuade the community logically and objectively

Opinions become meaningful only when backed by credible sources.

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## 8. Reporting the Validity of a Theory

Theories are strengthened or challenged through:

- Further experiments
- Evidence-based writing
- Verification by other researchers

Outcomes:

- If supported → theory becomes stronger
- If contradicted → theory is questioned or revised

Academic writing records these processes clearly and reliably.

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## Summary

The purposes of academic writing include:

- Engaging with academic issues
- Sharing ideas and findings with the academic community
- Informing, explaining, persuading, analyzing, and evaluating
- Documenting knowledge and research
- Verifying others' claims
- Examining scientific methods

- Conveying arguments and viewpoints
- Reporting the validity of theories

Academic writing ensures that knowledge is communicated accurately, formally, and in a way that allows others to understand, test, and build upon it.

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