CCS 1090d
Academic English Skills
Week 1 – Session 1

Dr Vicky Papachristou

Find someone who...

is not addicted to computer games	does an extreme sport
cooks well	has won an award
doesn't have a Facebook account	has met someone famous

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Getting to know you...

• Why did you decide to study Computer Science?
• What do you hope to learn during your studies?
• What do you already know?
• What's your dream career?

3

Feelings about English

Do you like English?

How do you feel about completing your education in English?

How do you think this will benefit you?

Do you think you still have some areas to improve in terms of your English use?

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

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Aims of today's lesson

• What is academic English?

• Outline of the course (introduction to syllabus, assessment workload map, Google classroom, materials etc.)

• Introduction to the process of drafting/outlining/writing

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Basic Academic English Skills

Reading: scientific books, articles, papers, newspapers, on-line journals etc.	**Writing**: essays, reports, reviews, CVs etc.	**Listening**: lectures, oral presentations, talks etc.
Speaking: oral presentations, discussions, interviews, debates etc.	Understanding how to use expert opinion to support arguments	Avoiding plagiarism (more on that later!)

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Google Classroom and Course Materials

▪ Google Classroom class code: **meaj6ng**
▪ All slides online
▪ All material online

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Syllabus CCS1090

Let's take a look at the syllabus on Google Classroom

Find two areas that you were not expecting to be part of the CCS1090 syllabus

Which parts of the syllabus do you think you will enjoy?
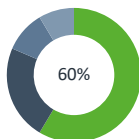
Which will you not enjoy?

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Assessment Methods

40%

In-class presentation (in pairs, 8 minutes)

Week 8

60%

Essay (1000-1200 words)

Week 13

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What is the writing process?

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- A process of developing an essay or other text using techniques which include : **Pre-writing**, **drafting**, **revising**, **editing**, and **polishing**

- How is this different to what you normally do?

- Typical model for high school students: write – submit
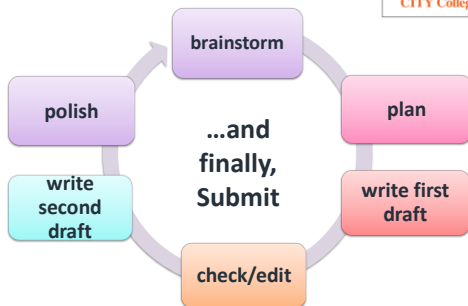
- Academic students use the "Process Model"

The Process Model

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- brainstorm
- plan
- write first draft
- check/edit
- write second draft
- polish

…and finally, Submit

Step 1: Outline

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- Draw a very general plan of your essay structure and content
- Use simple sentences to describe the content of each paragraph
- Hierarchize your points and sub-points (e.g. using numerals or letters)

Step 2: Draft

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- Use the outline as a basis and start elaborating on each of the points
- Use longer and more complex sentences to express your ideas but no need to be perfect at the moment
- Keep the structure of the outline but no need for numbers or letters

Step 3: Revising

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- Is the structure, content, and language appropriate and effective in achieving the aim of the essay?
- Are there any modifications in the structure, content, and language that could improve the essay?
- Ask for feedback!

Step 4: Editing

Go through your essay carefully and check your grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and punctuation

Make sure the presentation and format of your essay is appropriate, e.g. fonts, spacing, referencing etc. (and don't forget the word limit!)

Make sure all necessary parts of the essay are there, e.g. cover page (if needed), title, reference list, etc.

Step 5: Publishing/Submitting

Keep a copy of the final version (both digital and printed if possible) for yourself

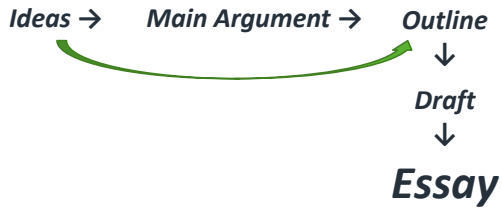Be sure to meet the deadline!

Planning an answer: Outline Vs. Draft

Outline

- ✓ a **sketch** of the main points, organized in bullet points, in proper order
- ✓ **clear**, **detailed** and **immediately informative** as to the content of the essay

Draft

- ✓ the **final version** of your paper **right before** it is revised and corrected
- ✓ points are **expanded** into paragraphs **in full text**

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Planning an answer:
Outline Vs. Draft

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Ideas →   *Main Argument* →   *Outline*
↓
Draft
↓
Essay

Form of an outline/Structure
of an Essay:

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A. Introduction - The main idea and the general approach to it.

B. Main Body – arguments that support the main idea of the essay:

    Support Paragraph 1:

        (assertions, analysis, examples)

    Support Paragraph 2:

        (assertions, analysis, examples)

    Support Paragraph .....:

        (assertions, analysis, examples)

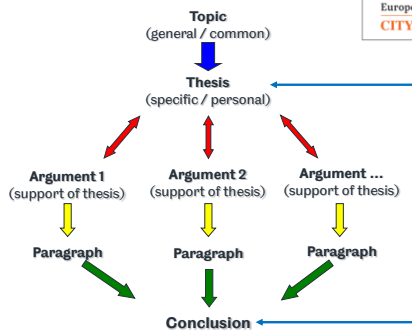C. Conclusion - recapitulated summary or extension of arguments, final thought, etc.

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Topic
(general / common)

Thesis
(specific / personal)

Argument 1
(support of thesis)

Argument 2
(support of thesis)

Argument ...
(support of thesis)

Paragraph

Paragraph

Paragraph

Conclusion

Advantages of the process model

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- Better end result
- Higher mark
- Become aware of repeated mistakes
- Paying attention to details
- Focusing on the reader

Thank You!

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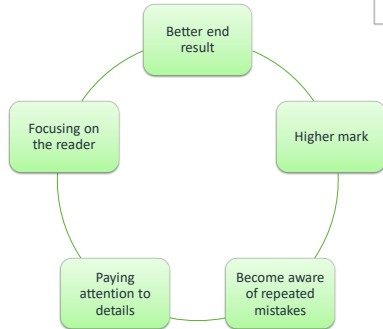
Remember:
Please register on Google classroom so you can download the material

Email if you need to:
✉ vpapachristou@york.citycollege.eu