

CCS 1090d Academic English Skills Week 1 – Session 2

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Aims of today's session

- Do's and don'ts in essay writing
- •How does plagiarism work across the disciplines
- In-text citations-the basics (Part I)

Do's and Don'ts in Essay Writing



Structure
Cohesion
Coherence
Content
Use of English
Use of sources
Presentation
Formatting



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Structure



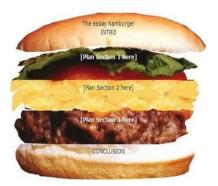
Do's

- 3 essay parts: Introduction, Main Body, Conclusion
- Introduction: Present the topic, say why it is important and how you plan to analyze it
- Main body: Analyze the essay question
- Conclusion: Summarize the key points, restate your view in detail
- Rule of thumb: the conclusion should be longer than the introduction

Don 'ts

- Don't forget to include all three parts in your essay
- If there is no introduction, then the reader will not understand what the essay is about
- If there is no conclusion, the reader cannot understand the key points of the essay
- Don't make your introduction and conclusion too short
- Don't start analyzing the topic in the introduction





Maybe this will help you remember the correct essay structure

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Cohesion



Do's

- Use connectors throughout your essay
- Use connectors appropriately
- Use signposting to introduce different parts in your essay

Don'ts

- Don't just use headings.
 If you want to use headings, you have to use connectors as well!
- Don't just use a connector here and there. That won't do the trick!
- Don't use the same connectors all the time!
- Don't use bulleted lists!



Coherence



Do's	Don'ts
Present ideas in a logical sequence	Don't discuss any ideas which are not included in your general topic sentence
Put separate, major points into different paragraphs	Don't jump into conclusions. Your ideas should follow a logical sequence
Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence followed by supporting sentences	

Content



Do's	Don'ts	ege
Analyze all parts of the essay question	Don't go off topic	
Discuss a variety of ideas from a range of perspectives	Don't assume that a short paragraph is enough to analyze one part of the essay question	
Be critical	Don't overgeneralise	

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Use of English



Do's

- Pay attention to the use of tenses, prepositions etc
- Make sure that your sentences are structured correctly (subject-verb-object)
- Consult a dictionary if you are not sure about the meaning of a word
- Use formal language (e.g. 'such as' is formal, 'like' is informal)
- Use complex language. Look for synonyms in the dictionary to enrich your vocabulary

Don'ts

- Don't use the same words and expressions all the time
- Don't use the 2nd person singular
- Don't use different subjects in your sentences
- Don't make typos; Use a spellchecker and read your essay again before submission

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Presentation



Add page numbers to your text

Give your essay a title

Include the assessment submission form

Separate your paragraphs either by indenting the first line of every paragraph or by adding space between paragraphs

Be consistent with font sizes and types

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Use of sources



Do's

- Use sources!
- Use sources so as to support your arguments
- Use an adequate number of sources depending on the length and topic of the essay
- · Evaluate your sources
- Learn how to reference appropriately all types of sources

Don'ts

- Don't assume that a reference list is enough when there are no in-text citations
- Don't get carried away and use too many sources. Your personal voice is crucial in an academic essay
- Don't plagiarize your essay. You'll get caught!
- Don't include sources in the reference list if they are not mentioned in your essay and vice versa



Plagiarism



What is Plagiarism? What is Plagiarism?

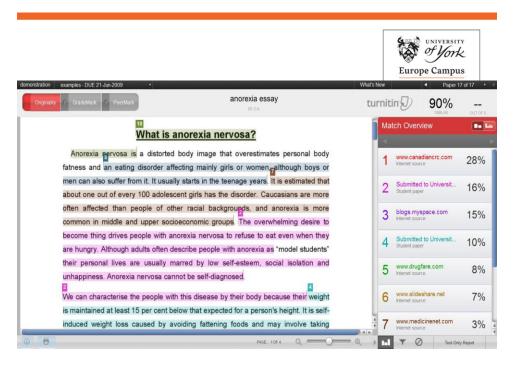
Plagiarism is passing off another person's ideas or statements as your own. Sources include another student, an essay-writing service, a professor in another course, books, articles, TV programs, the Internet.

Three main forms of plagiarism



- Copying another person's work, including the work of another student (with or without their consent), and claiming or pretending it is your own.
- Presenting arguments that use a blend of your own and a significant percentage of copied words of the original author without acknowledging the source.
- Paraphrasing another person's work, but not giving due acknowledgement to the original writer or organization publishing the writing, including Internet sites. The exceptions to this would be in relation to common knowledge (which is factual information that is beyond dispute e.g. There are four seasons in the year).

[1] C. Neville, The Complete Guide to Referencing and Avoiding Plagiarism, Open UP, 2007.



Why do students plagiarise essays? (1)



According to Dordoy (2002), students plagiarize:
To get a better grade
Because of bad time management
Because of easy access to material via the Internet
Because they did not understand the rules

Because 'it happens unconsciously' ('accidental plagiarism')

[1] C. Neville, The Complete Guide to Referencing and Avoiding Plagiarism, Open UP, 2007.

Why do students plagiarise essays? (2)



Lack of understanding what plagiarism is
Lack of confidence to do their own work
Leaving writing the essay in the last minute
Getting behind in their work, for whatever reason they
may have

Missing classes, so lacking the necessary background Lacking good command of English language

Reasons given by students for why others plagiarise



They started too late and ran out of time.

They simply could not do the coursework otherwise.

They did not think it was wrong.

They have to succeed. They got higher marks this way.

They did not need to learn that material, just pass the module.

They could not keep up with the work.

They wanted to see if they could get away with it.

They felt the tutor did not care, so why should they.

They thought paraphrasing would be disrespectful (Dennis 2005).

[1] C. Neville, The Complete Guide to Referencing and Avoiding Plagiarism, Open UP, 2007.



More importantly...

Possibly the **most important reasons** to not plagiarise is that:

- You learn to respect your own abilities involved in research, thinking, and writing.
- You learn to do research, to help expand thought processes, to improve writing skills, and to prepare presentations.
- Taking credit for someone else's work hurts you most of all.

Adapted from: Presentation by Joyce A. Brannan, Technical Services Librarian, Julia Tutwiler Library, University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama, 2004.







And...Paraphrase

Definition: Paraphrasing is an indirect quotation. It must be documented because it relates in your own words and style, the thoughts you have borrowed from another person. They fit more smoothly into your text, and you can express your own interpretations as you paraphrase.

What kind of data doesn't require credit?



Your own experiences, ideas, conclusions, material (e.g. videos, images, audio etc.) -unless it has already been published before!

Common knowledge

Generally accepted facts

Rule of thumb: if something appears in more than five sources without documentation, it can be considered common knowledge

How to use sources without committing plagiarism



You need to follow certain conventions regarding:

How you **integrate** parts from other sources into your own work

How you **credit** the sources you are using

How do you credit the sources?



There should always be both pieces of information:



In-text citation = information about the source within the text



Reference list = information about the source at the end of the paper

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Most common Referencing Systems



- Harvard
- APA (American Psychological Association)
- MLA (Modern Language Association)
- Chicago
- IEEE (Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers)

https://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/referencing-style-guides/ieee



Referencing System	Style	Used in	
Harvard	author-date	Mainly business	
APA	author-date	Social sciences	
MLA	author-page	Liberal arts and humanities	
Chicago	author-date / running notes	Humanites and social sciences	
IEEE	numeric	Electronics, electrics	

Unlike traditional power control formulations, in which rate targets are constraints of the problem [1], the rate maximization formulation that we consider in this paper provides a more challenging nonlinear, nonconvex optimization problem. In this paper, we focus on networks in which the channel transfer functions are time-invariant and frequency flat; otherwise, the problem is infinite dimensional and computationally intractable [2].

Recently, progress has been made on time-invariant networks

In-text references where references are numbered [1] in the order of appearance in the article.



Fig. 1. Information prominent in-text references.

REFERENCES

- R. D. Yates, "A framework for uplink power control in cellular radio esystems," *IEEE J. Sel. Areas Commun.*, vol. 13, no. 7, pp. 1341–1347, 1995.
- [2] Z. Luo and S. Zhang, "Dynamic spectrum management: Complexity and duality," *IEEE J. Sel. Topics Signal Process.*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 57–73, Feb. 2008.

A **reference list**, displayed at the end of the article which provides full details of all references cited in-text. The references are ordered as they appear in the in-text references (in order of citation, not in alphabetical order).



The IEEE citation style has 3 main features:

- 1. The author name is first name (or initial) and last.
- 2. The title of an article (or chapter, conference paper, patent etc.) is in **quotation marks ("")**.
- 3. The title of a journal or book is in *italics*.

Multiple citations in the text



The preferred method of citing more than one source at a time is listing each citation number separately with a comma or dash between each citation:

[1], [3], [7] [6]–[8]

Citing Secondary sources



- The IEEE style <u>does not allow</u> for the use of secondary citations.
- If you want to refer to the ideas or words of an author found in a source that you have not read yourself, but have read about it in *another* source (for example if you want to refer to William's work found in Taylor's), then you must locate the **original source** of this information (William's) and cite the original source. If the original source cannot be located, it should not be cited.

IEEE reference list examples



Your reference list should be arranged to match the order in which they appear in your report.

Type of Source	[I] Format
Book (one author)	[2] W. K. Chen, Linear Networks and Systems. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1993.
Book (two authors)	[3] F. Giannini and G. Leuzzi, Nonlinear Microwave Circuit Design. Chichester: J. Wiley and Sons, 2004.
Book (three or more authors)	[4] U. J. Gelinas, et al., Business Processes and Information Technology. Cincinnati: South-Western/Thomson Learning, 2004.
Chapter in an edited book	[5] D. Ginat, "Overlooking number patterns in algorithmic problem solving," in Number Theory in Mathematics Education: Perspectives and Prospects, R. Zazkis and S. R. Campbell, Eds. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2006, pp. 223-247.
Conference paper (published)	[6] L. Liu and H. Miao, "A specification based approach to testing polymorphic attributes," in Formal Methods and Software Engineering: Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods, ICFEM 2004, Seattle, WA, USA, November 8-12, 2004, J. Davies, W. Schulte, M. Barnett, Eds. Berlin: Springer, 2004, pp. 306-19.

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IEEE reference list examples



Your reference list should be arranged to match the order in which they appear in your paper.

Journal article	[7]	J. R. Beveridge and E. M. Riseman, "How easy is matching 2D line models using local search?" <i>IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence</i> , vol. 19, no. 6, pp. 564-579, June 1997.
Website with author	[8]	J. Amos (2012, Feb. 12). Eavesdropping on the Squid World. BBC News [Online]. Available: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/ science-environment-17117194. [Accessed: Feb. 27, 2012].
Website with no author	[9]	Apple. IEEE Standards Power & Energy Dictionary, litunes. apple.com. [Online]. Available: http://itunes.apple.com/us/ app/ieee-standards-power-energy/id491148158?mt=8?WT.mc_id=tm_proj_pe . [Accessed: Feb. 27, 2012].

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In a nutshell...



Before you start: select the appropriate referencing system

Within your text: use direct quotations/paraphrases/summaries + citations

End of the text: add the reference list

Don't forget to...



Evaluate and develop a critical stance towards your sources

Make sure they are **up-to-date** and **relevant** to your topic

Integrate them smoothly into your essay

Make sure that you **comment** on them immediately afterwards and that they support **your own argument**

Provide evidence of your own independent research

Rule of thumb: for every line drawn from another source, provide at least two lines of your own comments on it



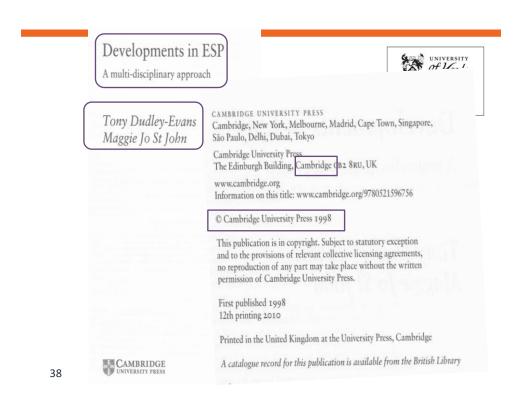
Abstract

With the rapid growth of the Web 2.0, the discovery of key actors in social networks, called influencers, mediators, ambassadors or experts, has recently received a



[1] M. N. Jelassi, C. Largeron, and S. B. Yahia, "Efficient Unveiling of Multi-members in a Social Network," *Journals of Systems and Software*, vol. 94, pp. 30-38, August 2014. [Online]. Available: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2013.06.061. [Accessed: 7 October 2021].

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[2] T. Dudley-Evans and M. J. St John, Developments in ESP: A multi-disciplinary approach, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.





