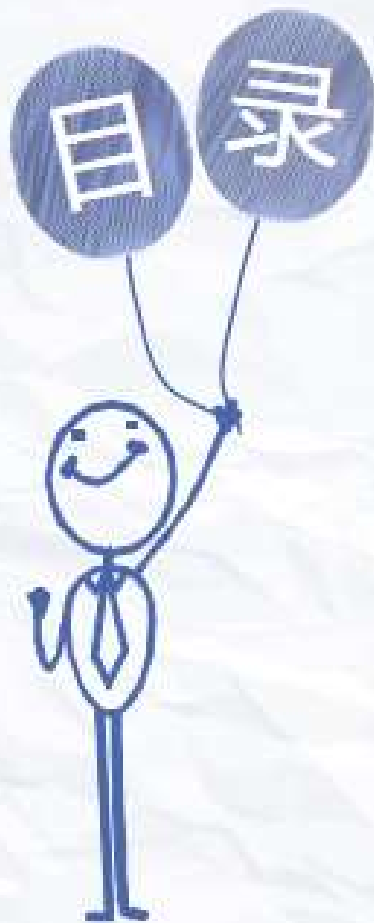




Academic English Writing

March 3, 2021



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Pre-test

2

Knowledge Points

3

Q & A

4

Group Reports and Discussions



PART ONE

Pre-test

Are you ready?

单选题 1分

1. Which is not the characteristic of academic register?

- ☒ A Wordiness
- ☐ B Complex sentence structure
- ☐ C Passive voice
- ☐ D Nominalization

单选题 1分

2. What is the purpose of nominalization?

- ☐ A To express concrete concepts
- ☐ B To hide the object behind an action
- ☐ C To make writing more abstract
- ☒ D To facilitate efficiency and accuracy of communication

多选题 2分

3. A good title should be _____ .

- ☒ A concise
- ☒ B informative
- ☒ C specific
- ☐ D interesting

多选题 2分

4. How would you do to make your writing impersonal and academic?

- ☐ A Delete the subjective expressions.
- ☐ B Change active voice to passive voice.
- ☐ C Use the third personal pronouns.
- ☐ D Avoid using “you” unless giving instructions.

主观题 4分

Directions: There are some inappropriate expressions in the following sentences. Identify at least 2 of them in order to make the sentences more academic.

I think there are 4 main areas. I can see big differences between standrad writing and academic writing.



Suggested Answer:

Rewriting:

Generally speaking, there are four main areas where significant differences between standard writing and academic writing can be observed.



PART TWO

Knowledge Points

Have you mastered?



Knowledge Points

★ 5. Word Choice and Sentence Variety

Word Choice

Sentence Variety

★ 4. Personal Pronouns

Review

Avoiding the 1st and 2nd Personal Pronouns

Using the 3rd Personal Pronouns

★ 3. Nominalization

What? — Definition

Why? — Purpose

How? — Formula

★ 1. Registers

Definition

Types

Linguistic Features

★ 2. How to write a title?

Good Titles vs. Bad Titles

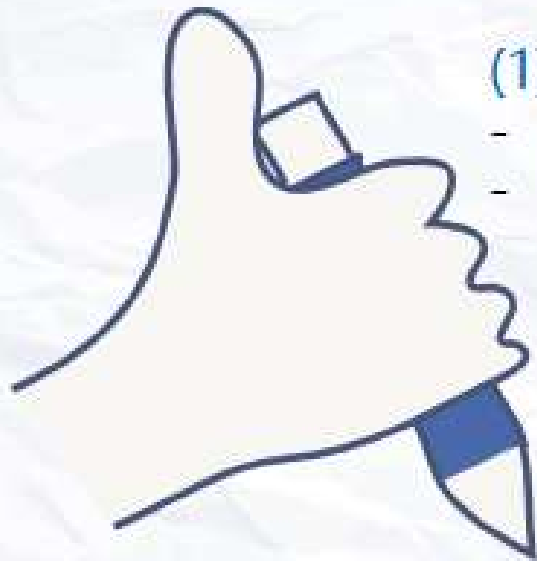
3-Step Method





Knowledge Points

1. Registers



(1) Definition

- A style of speaking and writing
- Representing a level of language formality

(2) Types

- Static
- Formal
- Consultative (professional / academic)
- Casual
- Personal



Knowledge Points

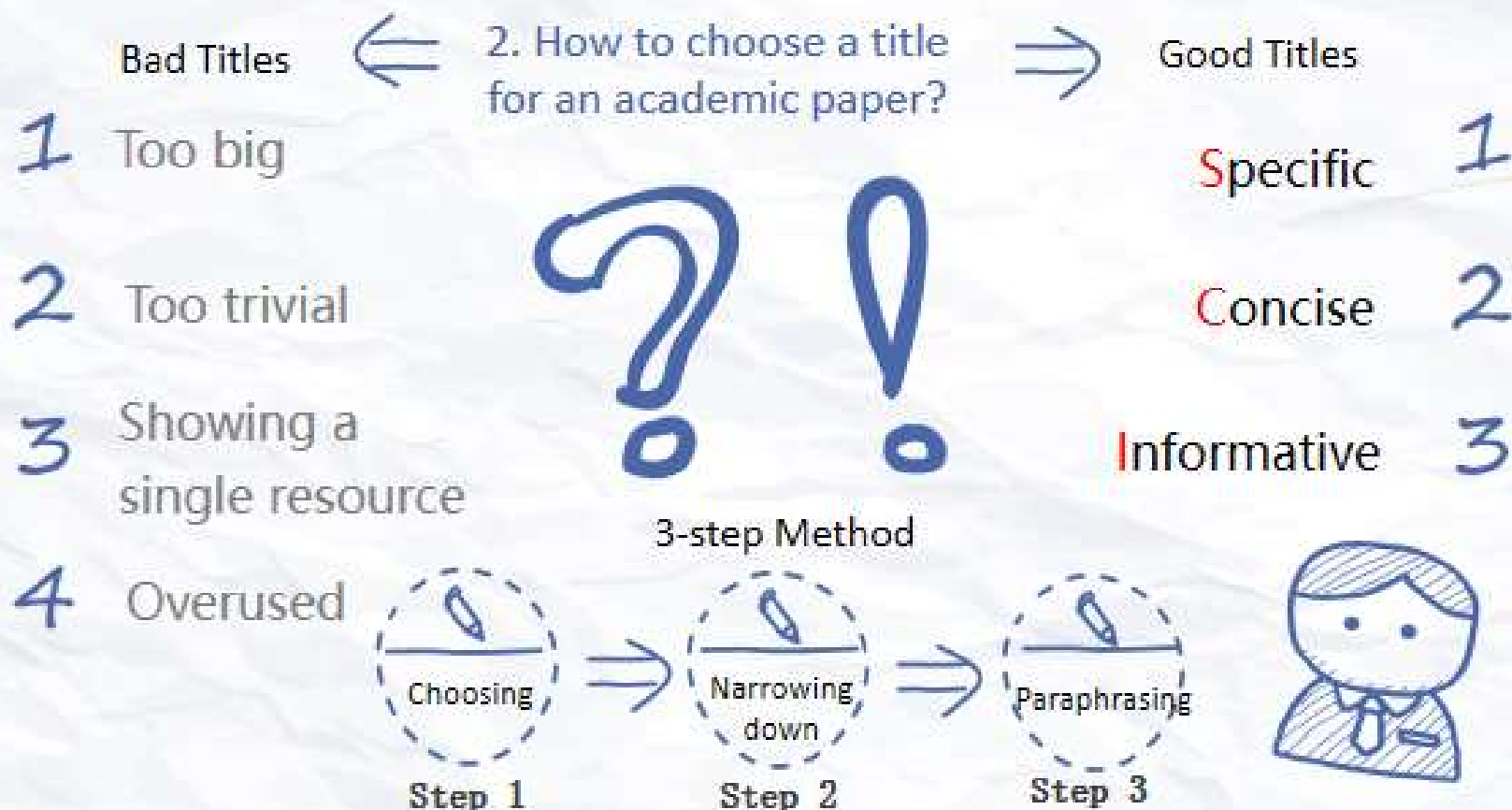


(3) Characteristics

- 👍 Wording
(terms, hyponyms, initials)
- 👍 Nominalization
- 👍 Third Person Pronouns
- 👍 Passive Voice
- 👍 Tense
- 👍 Complex Sentence Structure



Knowledge Points





Knowledge Points

Converting verbs or adjs. to nouns

⇐ 3. Nominalization

Purposes:



1. To express abstract concepts



2. To make writing more “written” and professional



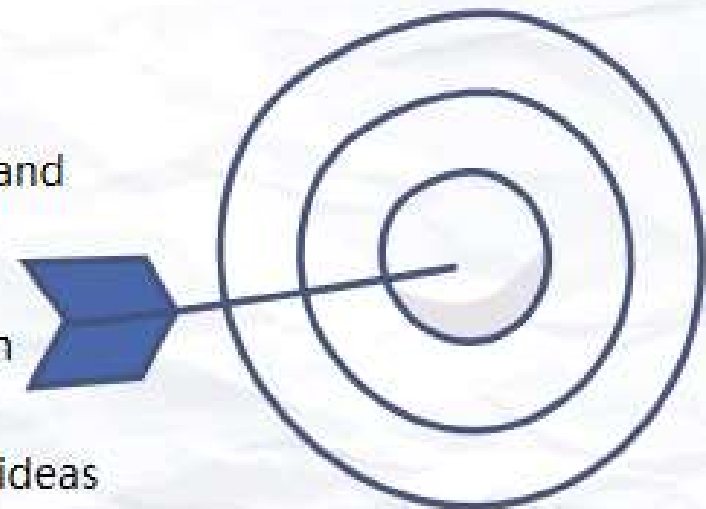
3. To hide the agent behind an action



4. To maintain connections between ideas



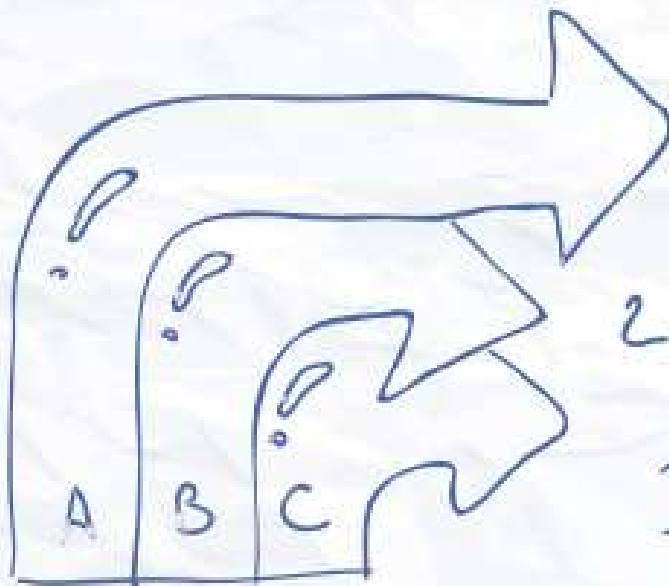
5. To increase information density and communication efficiency





Knowledge Points

How to nominalize a simple sentence?



1 Creating a nominalized form of the main verb or adjective

2 Choosing another proper verb

3 Adding supplementary information



Knowledge Points

(1) Review

Personal Pronouns: nominative, objective

Possessive Pronouns: nominal and adjectival

(3) Using the 3rd Personal Pronouns

Credible
Assertive
Professional

Tips:

Gender-fair language;

Confusion of the 3rd personal pronouns



(2) Avoiding the 1st and 2nd Personal Pronouns

- * Deleting the subjective expressions
- * Changing active voice to passive voice
- * Using the 3rd personal pronouns

4. Personal Pronouns



Knowledge Points

5. Word Choice and Sentence Variety

(4) Figurative Speeches

Simile
Metaphor
Personification

(1) Abstract and Concrete Words

(3) Denotation and Connotation

Denotation: Literal meaning
Connotation: implied meaning

(2) General and Specific Words





Knowledge Points

Tips: Avoiding Inappropriate Vocabulary

- 1. Unfamiliar Synonyms
- 2. Slang
- 3. Wordiness



Sentence Variety: simple, compound, complex, and c-c



- 1. Writing different types of sentences;
- 2. Balancing the short and long sentences;
- 3. Adding more information to the short sentences;
- 4. Combining some sentences to create compound and complex sentences;
- 5. Varying the structure and rhythm.





Q & A

Questions:



1. What are the differences between the academic writing and non-academic writing?
2. What is the attitude toward the use of “I” in your discipline?



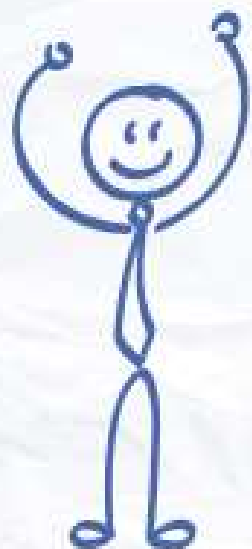
PART Four

Group Reports and Discussions

Let's go!



Group Reports



Group 1



Group 3



Knowledge Points



5. Word Choice
and Sentence
Variety

Main Points:



4. Personal
Pronouns

Main Points:

3. Nominalization

Main Points:

2. Good Titles

Main Points:

1. Registers

Main Points:



