
Transition to tertiary study: using self assessment tools to guide teaching

Joslyn Tait
Barbara Morgan

Outline

- Context
- The quizzes
 - Study Ready
 - Language Ready
- Process
- Analysis of the UniReady quiz results
- Challenges
- Next steps

Apologies

.....Report on a pilot study and how the results can be used to promote awareness of the importance of academic acculturation



Challenges



Context

English language readiness and/or academic acculturation ?

Previous RMIT project

English language development project → PELA

English Ready Quiz

- screening test
- poor uptake
- questionable reliability
- identified students didn't access support



→ Need to decommission

Academic acculturation

Mismatched expectations



Lecturers' awareness
of their students'
preparedness

Student awareness
of expectations and
preparedness for
tertiary study

Development process

UniReady **self assessment** quizzes- StudyReady and LanguageReady

StudyReady

Developed in collaboration with RMIT Vietnam academic skills

20 statements about tertiary study
Answer options, agree, disagree, not sure

LanguageReady

Developed in collaboration with RMIT Vietnam, RMIT English Worldwide and RMIT School of Education

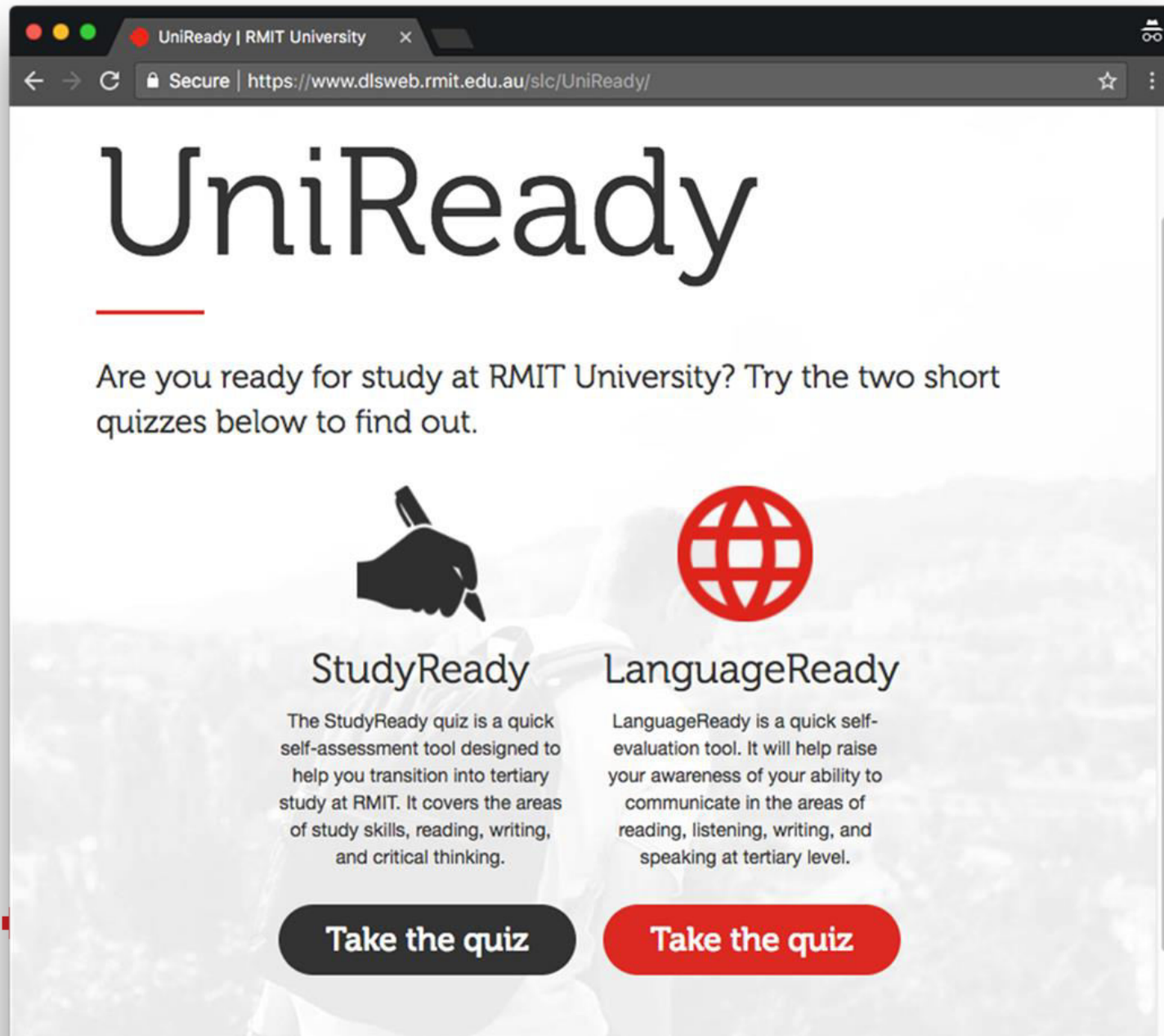
Informed by Common European Framework of Reference for Languages Open Universities UK

Competency statements for reading, writing, speaking and listening



Distributed to all commencing students in semester 1 and semester 2

UniReady




The screenshot shows a web browser window with the UniReady website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/slc/UniReady/>. The page features a large 'UniReady' title, a brief introduction to the quizzes, and two main sections: 'StudyReady' and 'LanguageReady'. Each section includes an icon, a description of the quiz, and a 'Take the quiz' button. The background of the page is a grayscale image of a person's face.

UniReady | RMIT University

Secure | <https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/slc/UniReady/>

UniReady


Are you ready for study at RMIT University? Try the two short quizzes below to find out.



StudyReady

The StudyReady quiz is a quick self-assessment tool designed to help you transition into tertiary study at RMIT. It covers the areas of study skills, reading, writing, and critical thinking.

[Take the quiz](#)



LanguageReady

LanguageReady is a quick self-evaluation tool. It will help raise your awareness of your ability to communicate in the areas of reading, listening, writing, and speaking at tertiary level.

[Take the quiz](#)

Sample questions

StudyReady | RMIT University

Secure | https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/slc/StudyReady/

My workload, including assignments, will be evenly spaced throughout the semester.

JULY

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Think again...

You answered: I agree

Probably not. The amount of work you need to do may vary through the semester. You will need to develop good time management skills to balance your study and personal life. Do this by setting goals and prioritising your study.

Next

STUDY SKILLS

1/20

My RMIT classes will be different to the ones I had in high school.



Well done!

You answered: I agree

Correct. There are many different types of classes at RMIT and they may be different from high school (e.g. lectures, tutorials, practicals, studios, etc.).

Next
▼

If I use someone's ideas, data, or images in my written work, I need to say where they came from.

**Consider...**

You answered: I'm not sure

You must acknowledge all your sources in academic writing. Citing correctly gives your work credibility and shows you've done your research.

Next
▼

My Results

Thanks for taking the quiz. Now, spend some time thinking about your results.

Study Skills	★★☆☆	I am somewhat prepared
Reading	★★★☆☆	I am prepared
Writing	★★☆☆	I am somewhat prepared
Critical Thinking	★★☆☆	I am somewhat prepared

✓ Download quiz and feedback (PDF 117 KB)

Study Resources

What next? Use the resources below to support your studies at RMIT.

Study Resources

What next? Use the resources below to support your studies at RMIT.

You can also visit the **RMIT Learning Lab** for all your academic study, writing, and English language support throughout your studies.

Improve your language on the RMIT Learning Lab:

- **Writing skills:** Check out some of the essential writing skills needed in tertiary study.
- **Reading skills:** Learn about skimming and scanning strategies as well as how to organise the information you have just read.
- **Spelling:** Learn about the major spelling rules used in the English language with activities that will test your skills.
- **Oral presentations:** Plan and prepare for oral presentations at university with these resources.
- **Tips from students:** A series of videos from RMIT international students sharing tips on how to improve your English.
- **Academic word list tool:** Develop your vocabulary by studying the list of 570 commonly used academic words. There are a range of fun games and activities to help you learn.
- **Useful websites:** A comprehensive list of websites compiled to help you improve your English.
- **English practice activities:** A collection of interactive websites designed to improve your IELTS readiness, vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar.

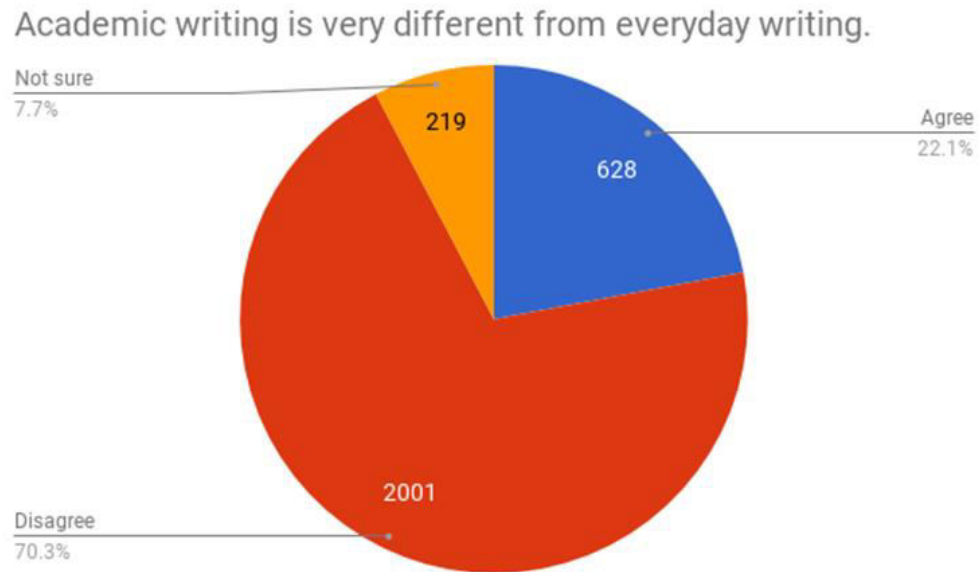
English Ready program:

- Attend the English Ready workshops during the semester. Meet new friends and improve your language skills on the go.

StudyReady Quiz

Have you tried the **StudyReady quiz**? Check it out now.

StudyReady results



StudyReady analysis

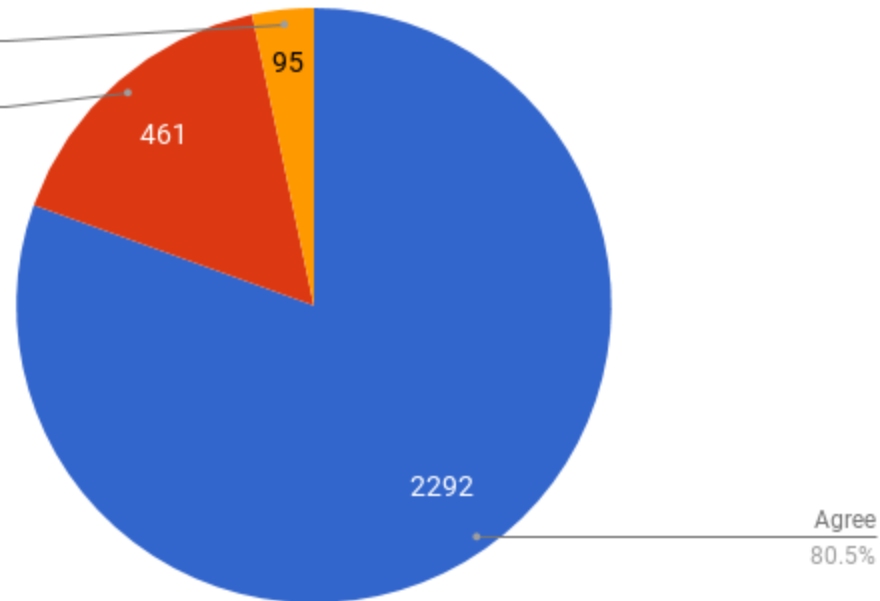
My classes will be similar to the ones I had in high school.

Not sure

3.3%

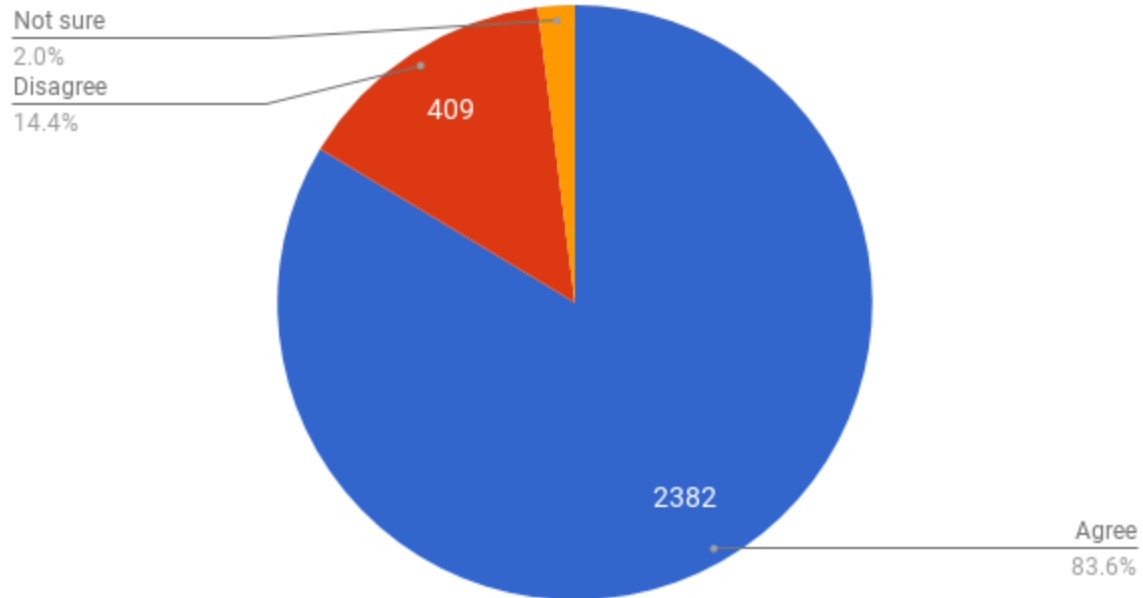
Disagree

16.2%



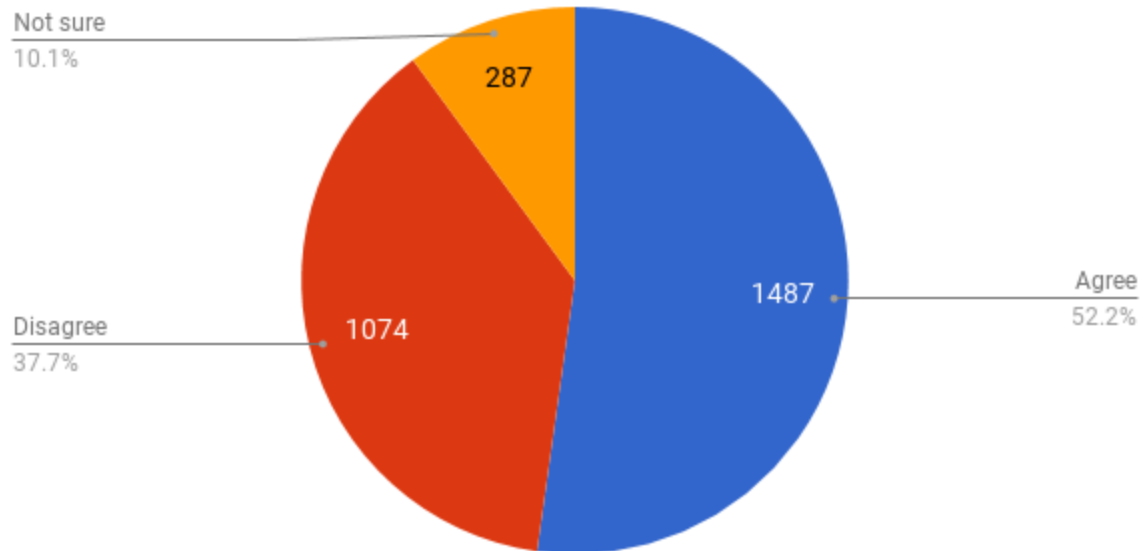
StudyReady analysis

I need to note down everything that is said in classes.



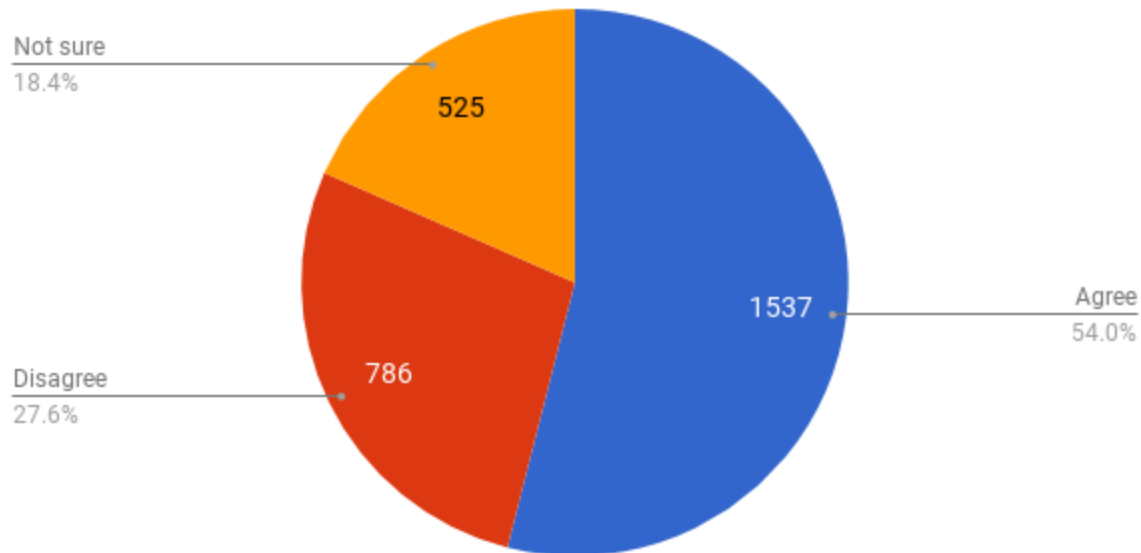
StudyReady analysis

If something is published in a text book or journal, it must be correct.



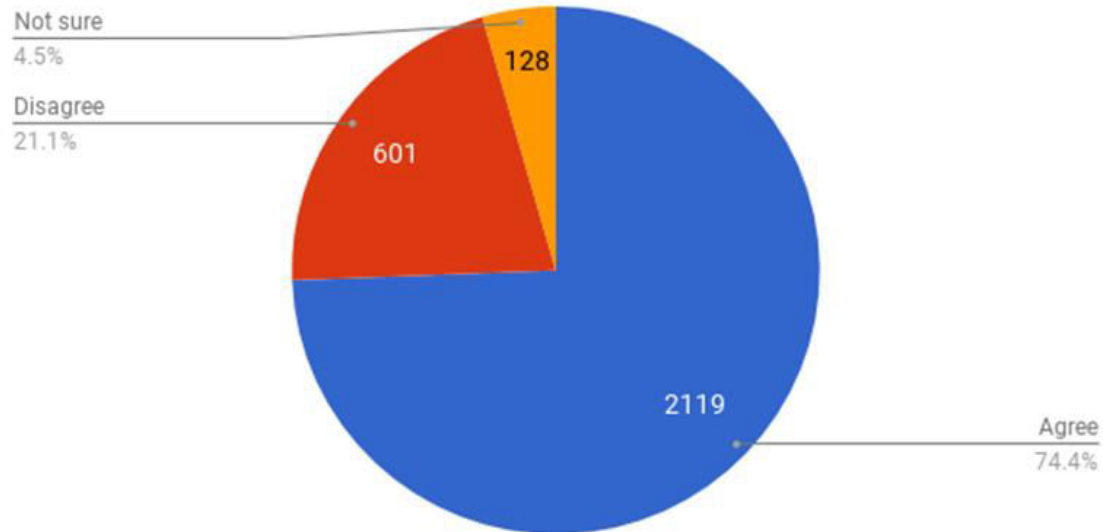
StudyReady analysis

My study load, including assignments, will be evenly spaced throughout the program.



StudyReady analysis

I'll need to read all of my university texts carefully and thoroughly to understand them.



LanguageReady competency statements

I can write one or two paragraphs about familiar topics. I can write some sentences accurately. I can use some punctuation (e.g. capitals, commas, full stops).

I can write several paragraphs giving my opinions, with reasons and examples. My sentences are often accurate. When I make mistakes, the meaning is sometimes not clear.

I can produce extended pieces of writing on a range of topics. Most of my sentences are accurate. If I make mistakes, they do not cause confusion.

I can produce a logically structured and clearly written analysis of a topic I have researched. My writing is accurate and errors are rare.

I can understand the main ideas in newspaper or magazine articles, websites etc. about familiar topics.

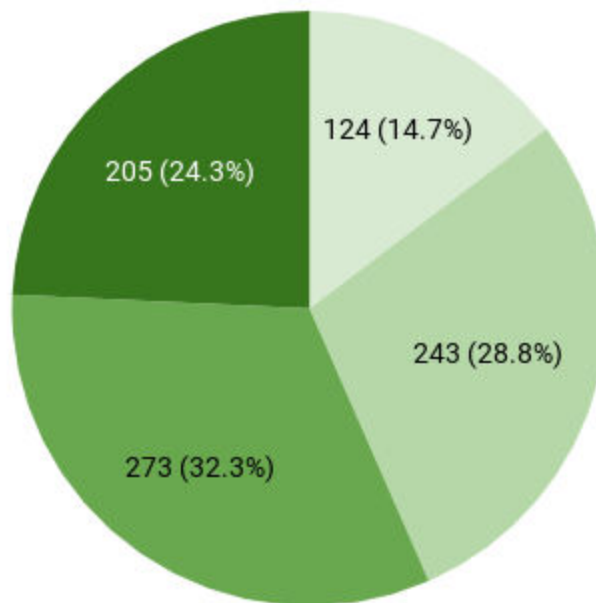
I can understand main points and some details in newspaper and magazine articles, websites etc. on familiar topics.

I can understand book chapters and newspaper articles, websites etc. on a range of topics, even if I am not always familiar with them, e.g. the economy, the environment, healthcare etc.

I can read about new topics and abstract ideas in books, in-depth articles and reports e.g. on business, science, philosophy.

LanguageReady results

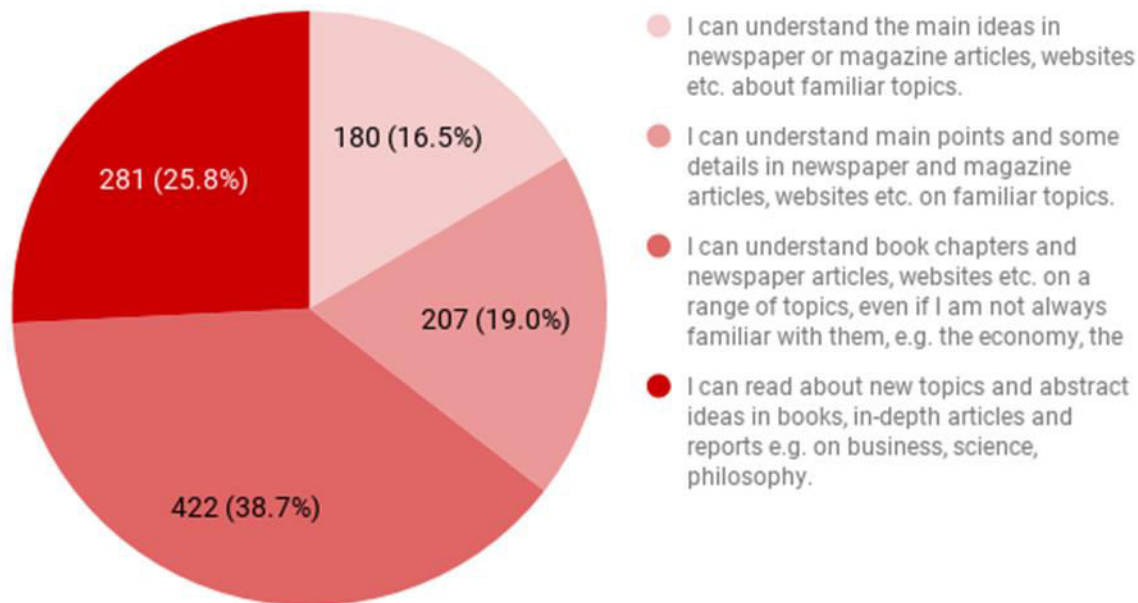
Writing



- I can write one or two paragraphs about familiar topics. I can write some sentences accurately. I can use some punctuation (e.g. capitals, commas, full
- I can write several paragraphs giving my opinions, with reasons and examples. My sentences are often accurate. When I make mistakes, the meaning is
- I can produce extended pieces of writing on a range of topics. Most of my sentences are accurate. If I make
- I can produce a logically structured and clearly written analysis of a topic I have researched. My writing is accurate and

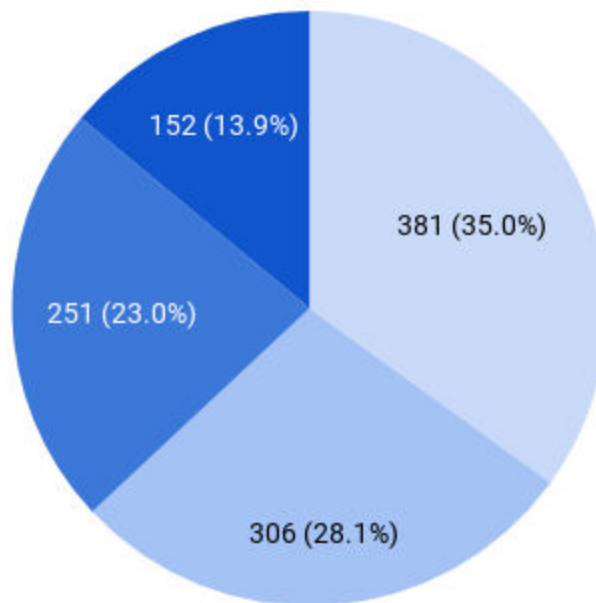
LanguageReady results

Reading



LanguageReady results

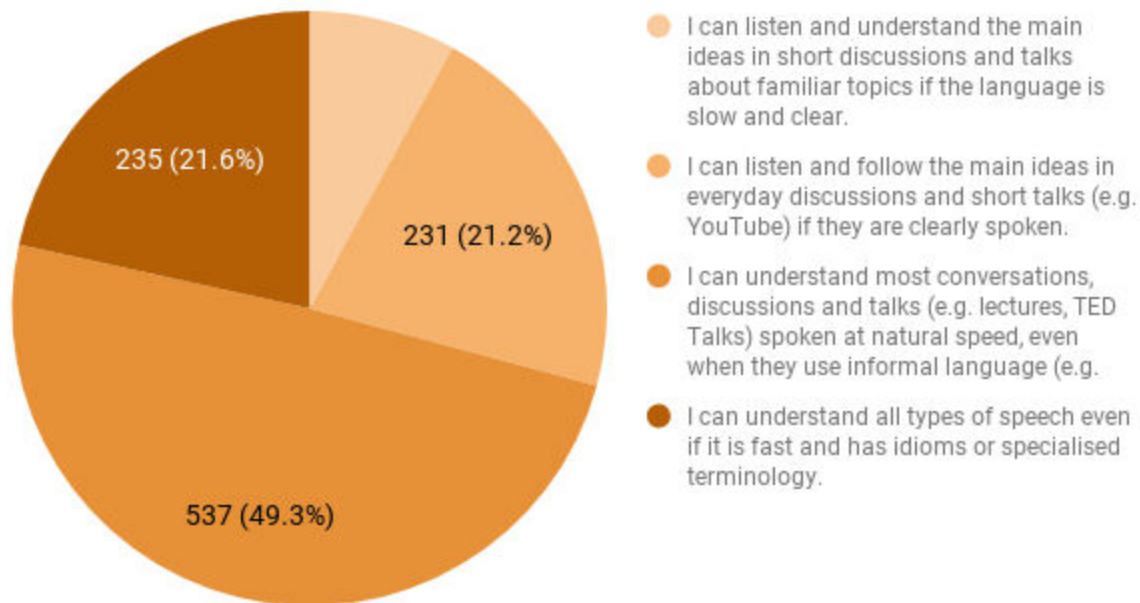
Speaking



- I can talk about familiar topics (e.g. things I've done, personal information, etc.). I can say some things accurately. I often make mistakes and people may not
- I can speak easily and quickly on familiar topics. My language is often accurate. I do make mistakes but the meaning is usually clear.
- I can speak very easily and naturally about a range of personal or non-personal topics. I rarely need to think
- I can speak effortlessly in discussions and express my ideas very clearly. I rarely make errors.

LanguageReady results

Listening



Challenges.. ...

Roadshow across the university



Strong interest in a pilot but no firm commitment for semester 2

Issue – Whose responsibility?



Next steps

Work with specific 1st year courses:

- integrate into classes (wks 1-3)
- trigger for teaching intervention
- induction to study in that discipline



systematically applied
transition tool