


Scientific Writing in English
—英语科研论文写作—
MODULE 2



Lecture 7: Monday 12.10.2015
(8.30-9.10pm/13.30-15.10pm)

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Overview

1. Course Feedback
2. Module 2 (cont.)
3. Discussions Tasks
4. Tasks for Friday

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OVERVIEW - Module 2

Unit 1: Approach to Academic Writing

Unit 2: Writing General -> Specific

Unit 3: Structure of Problem-Solution Texts

Unit 4: Data Commentary

Unit 5: Writing Summaries

Unit 6: Writing Critiques

Unit 7: Constructing a Research Paper I and II

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OVERVIEW - Module 2

Unit 1: Approach to Academic Writing

1. Audience
2. Purpose and Strategy
3. Organization
4. **Style**
 - Language Focus: The Vocabulary Shift
 - Language Focus: Formal Grammar Style
5. Flow
 - Language Focus: Linking Words and Phrases
 - Language Focus: *this* + Summary Word

Style

Friday Class Task 12 (T9, p.20):
Substitute the informal verbs in each sentence for their formal equivalents.



Analysis

Style

1. Researchers have **come up with** a number of models to describe the effect of certain beverages on dental enamel erosion.
2. AIDS researchers have **run into** a variety of unexpected problems in their efforts to develop a vaccine.
3. Recent studies on car scrapping have **brought up** the important question as to whether CO₂ emissions can be significantly reduced.
4. Problems with this policy **showed up** soon after its implementation.
5. In the past five years many studies have **looked at** the effect of different grassland management practices.

Style

- > Think about your (other) non-native audience!
- > Your purpose is to be understood by ALL your readers!
- > Try and find a balance between too informal and too formal
- > Best achieved by **sticking to (adhering to)** conventions of academic writing

Style

1. Researchers have **come up with** a number of models to describe the effect of certain beverages on dental enamel erosion.
1. Researchers have **developed** a number of models to describe the effect of certain beverages on dental enamel erosion.

Style

2. AIDS researchers have **run into** a variety of unexpected problems in their efforts to develop a vaccine.
2. AIDS researchers have **encountered** a variety of unexpected problems in their efforts to develop a vaccine.

Style

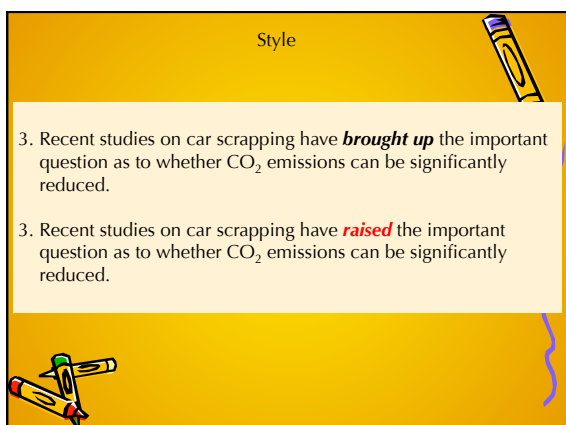
3. Recent studies on car scrapping have **brought up** the important question as to whether CO₂ emissions can be significantly reduced.



Style

3. Recent studies on car scrapping have **brought up** the important question as to whether CO₂ emissions can be significantly reduced.

3. Recent studies on car scrapping have **raised** the important question as to whether CO₂ emissions can be significantly reduced.



Style

4. Problems with this policy **showed up** soon after its implementation.

4. Problems with this policy **appeared** soon after its implementation.



Style

5. In the past five years many studies have **looked at** the effect of different grassland management practices.

5. In the past five years many studies have **investigated** the effect of different grassland management practices.

Style

SUMMARY

-> English has TOO MANY verbs with similar meanings!

-> You cannot possibly learn their use by heart!!

-> How to overcome this problem?!

Style

Other parts of sentences:

* chose the more formal alternative

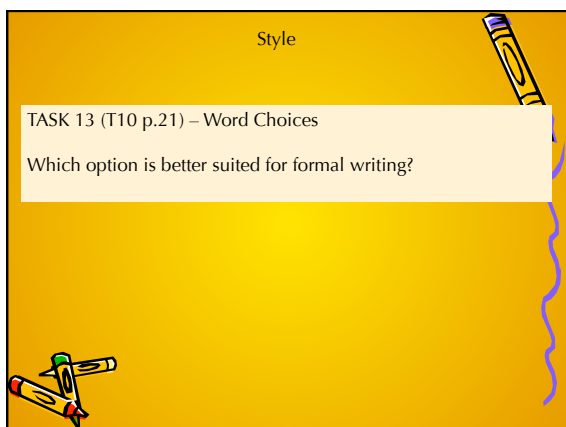
informal	formal
are really important	are an integral part
for just about	for nearly
has been a lot of	has been considerable
we did some experiments	we performed a number of experiments
we got obvious	we obtained visible
getting bigger and bigger	is increasing

READ READ READ!

Style

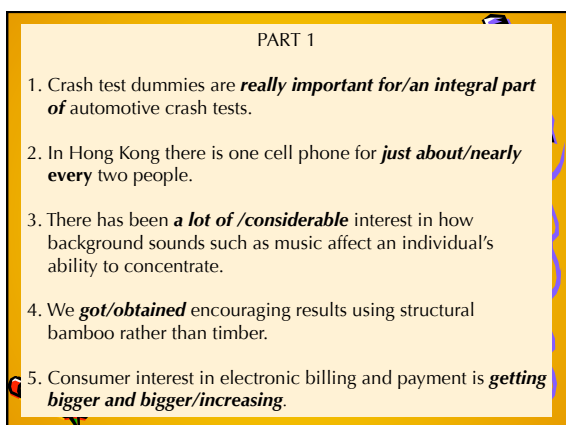
TASK 13 (T10 p.21) – Word Choices

Which option is better suited for formal writing?



PART 1

1. Crash test dummies are **really important for/an integral part of** automotive crash tests.
2. In Hong Kong there is one cell phone for **just about/nearly every** two people.
3. There has been **a lot of /considerable** interest in how background sounds such as music affect an individual's ability to concentrate.
4. We **got/obtained** encouraging results using structural bamboo rather than timber.
5. Consumer interest in electronic billing and payment is **getting bigger and bigger/increasing**.



PART 2

6. The competition faced by U.S. growers from imports of Mexican fresh vegetables has **gotten more intense**.
7. Many urban areas **do not have enough** land to build new public schools.
8. Allergic reactions to local dental anesthesia **do not happen very often**.
9. The doors on these ferries were **made bigger to make it easier to load and unload** vehicles.

