


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



Lecture 21 Monday 30.11.2015

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

Volunteers for Note Taking
(Chinese/English)

compiled version to:

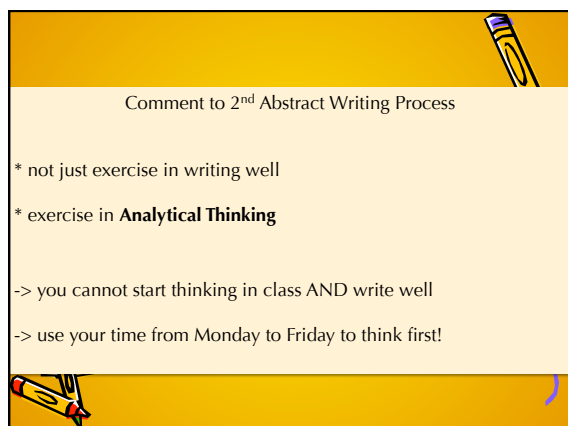
赵竹轩 zhaozhuxuan@ucas.ac.cn
&
吕平平 pplv10@126.com

Comment to 2nd Abstract Writing Process

- * not just exercise in writing well
- * exercise in **Analytical Thinking**

What is the Problem? What are the Solutions?

-> **writing well = thinking well**

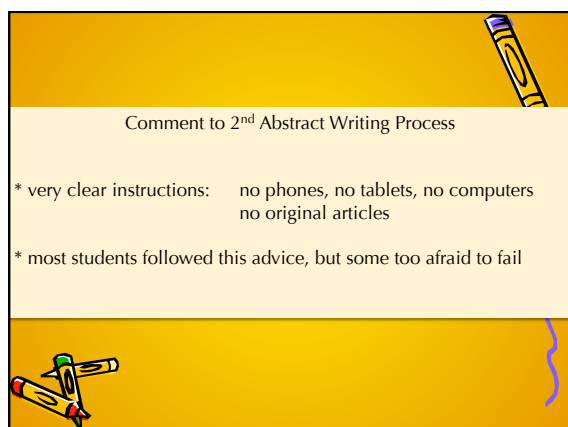


Comment to 2nd Abstract Writing Process

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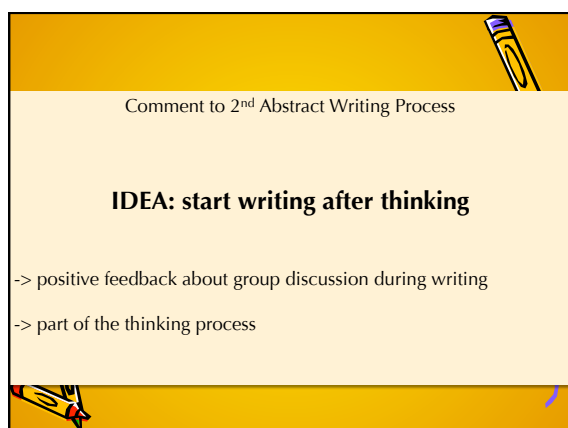
-> you cannot start thinking in class AND write well

-> use your time from Monday to Friday to think first!



Comment to 2nd Abstract Writing Process

- * very clear instructions: no phones, no tablets, no computers
no original articles
- * most students followed this advice, but some too afraid to fail

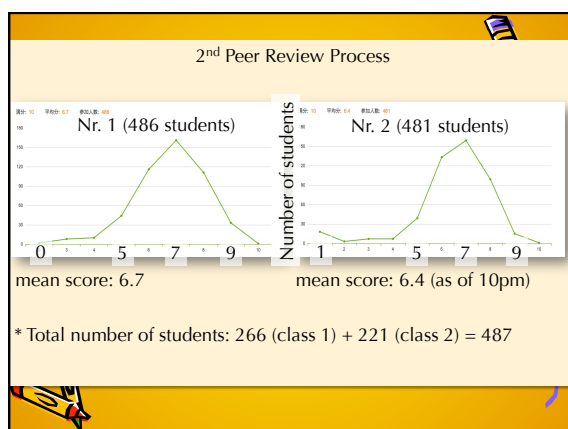


Comment to 2nd Abstract Writing Process

IDEA: start writing after thinking

-> positive feedback about group discussion during writing

-> part of the thinking process



OVERVIEW - Module 2

Unit 4: Data Commentary

1. Strength of Claim
2. Structure of Data Commentary
3. Language Focus: Verbs in Indicative and Informative Summaries
4. Language Focus: Linking as-Clauses
5. Language Focus: Qualifications and Strength of Claim
6. Language Focus: Qualifying Comparisons
7. Language Focus: Dealing with Problems
- 8. Language Focus: Referring to Lines on Graphs**
9. Language Focus: Prepositions of Time

2nd Peer Review Process

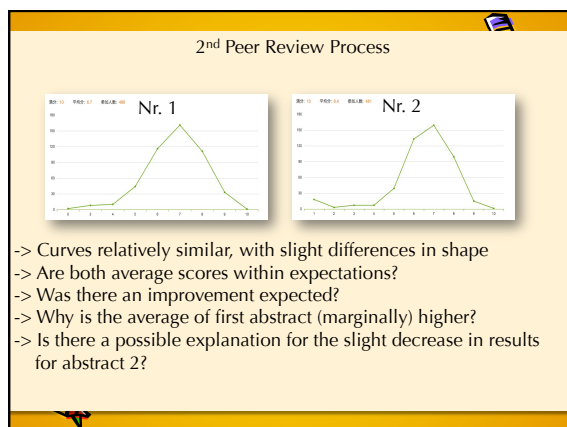
Nr. 1 (486 students)
mean score: 6.7

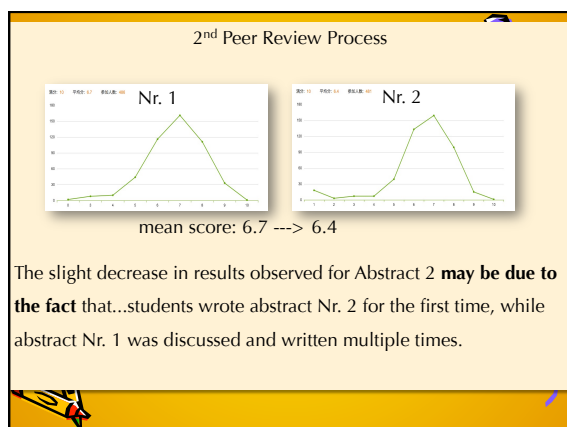
Nr. 2 (481 students)
mean score: 6.4

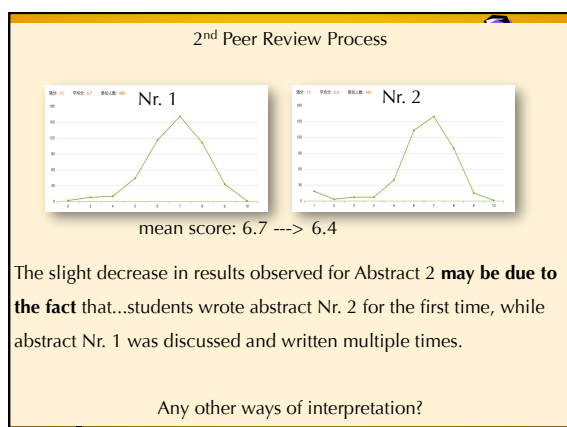
Task (15 min)

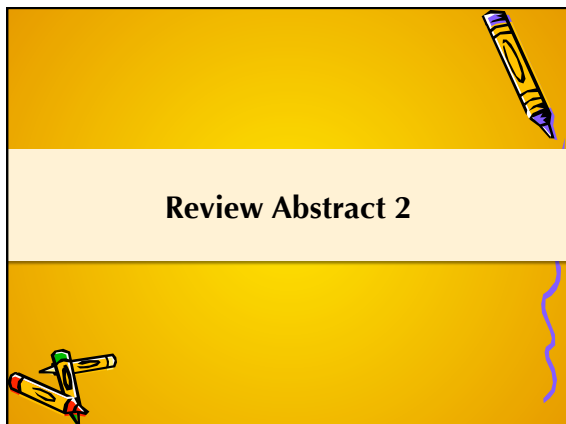
First, take a pen and a piece of paper, and write down...
what you see.

Then discuss with your peers what this **might mean** (interpretation).

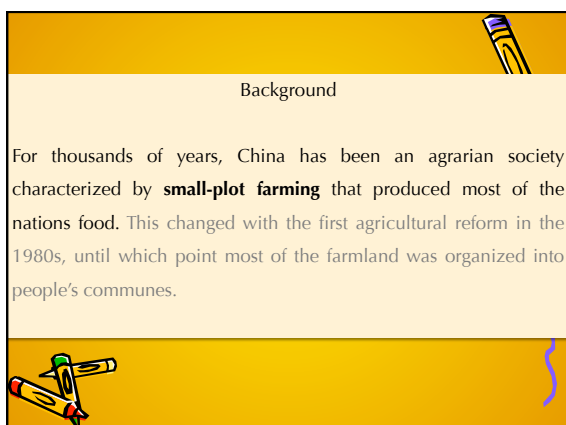






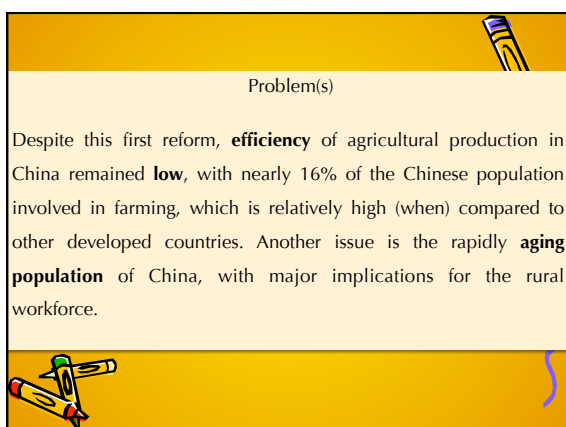


Review Abstract 2



Background

For thousands of years, China has been an agrarian society characterized by **small-plot farming** that produced most of the **nations food**. This changed with the first agricultural reform in the 1980s, until which point most of the farmland was organized into people's communes.



Problem(s)

Despite this first reform, **efficiency** of agricultural production in China remained **low**, with nearly 16% of the Chinese population involved in farming, which is relatively high (when) compared to other developed countries. Another issue is the rapidly **aging population** of China, with major implications for the rural workforce.

Solution(s)

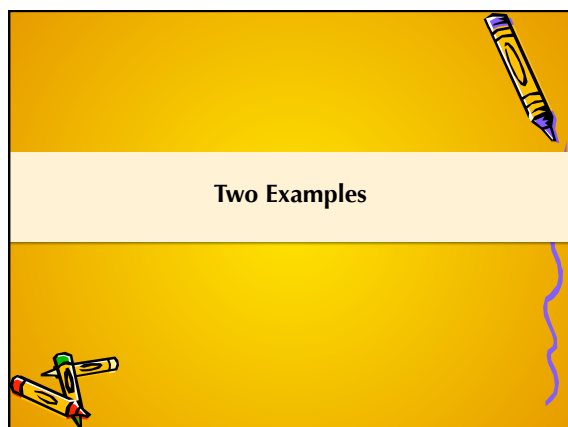
To address these challenges, the Chinese government has proposed/initiated? a **second major agricultural restructuring**. The main aim of this reform is to **better protect land management rights**, as a result of which a more efficient use of agricultural land is envisaged. Such change in legal status is thought to encourage farmers to contract the land use to outside farm managers, potentially resulting in the **establishment of highly productive farming enterprises**. This, in turn, should **attract skilled labor** into working for newly established large-scale agrobusinesses.

Evaluation

-> most difficult part, requires thinking about the data/material

Evaluation

While such a reform might overcome the current issue of low-productivity, it remains to be seen **whether young urban people are attracted by these changes** to agricultural production. It is possible that the **resulting higher profits** will create an **incentive structure** that is conducive to the hopes and aspirations of the next generation of Chinese farmers.




Two Examples

Example 1

China is planning to enter its second major period of agricultural reform since the 1980s, targeting to transform into large farms and "professionalized" farmers. However, China has a small-scale farm history for 2000 years, and it encountered challenge of the aging of its current generation farmers and the lack of successive workers. Therefore, to solve the problem, China will initiate the agricultural reform with the coming 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020), and accordingly formulate several policies and incentives. Firstly, it is primary to improve the system of property in rural China. Furthermore, professional farmers are permitted to operate large farms and raise the agricultural productivity in country. Those policies could encourage farmers to transfer their land to more productive farm managers, and establish joint-stock companies. Promisingly, new types of agribusinesses will enjoy economies of scale; meanwhile professional farm managers will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future.

B...Background; P...Problem; S...Solution; E...Evaluation


China is planning to enter its second major period of agricultural reform since the 1980s, targeting: 2nd -ing to transform ...what? into large farms and "professionalized" farmers: transform into ...farms and farmers. However, China has a small-scale farm history for 2000 years: maybe better 'has a long history of small-scale farming', and: connects two independent facts, better 'In addition,...' it encountered: present tense? maybe 'it is now encountering the...' challenge of the aging: maybe better 'the challenge of an aging generation of...' of its current generation farmers and: maybe 'together with' the: a lack of successive workers: maybe 'younger workers'. Therefore: not required here, to solve the: this problem, China will initiate: future tense? maybe 'is planning to...' the: second-mentioning? agricultural reform with the coming 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020), and accordingly: not required formulate: China formulates? several policies and incentives. Firstly: requires 'secondly', it is primary to improve the system of property: unclear expression, lack of detail in rural China. Furthermore, professional farmers are permitted: maybe 'under this plan, farmers will be permitted to...' to operate large farms and: if you use 'and' here, then the meaning is 'and will be permitted to raise ... productivity' raise the agricultural productivity in country. Those policies could: should? or 'these policies are implemented to encourage...' (causal relationship) encourage farmers to transfer their land to more productive farm managers, and also to establish joint-stock companies. Promisingly, these new types of agribusinesses will enjoy economies of scale; meanwhile: unclear professional farm managers will be the mainstay: too informal of the country's agriculture in the future.









mainstay

a stay that extends from the maintop to the foot of the foremast of a sailing ship.


- figurative a thing on which something else is based or depends :
whitefish are the mainstay of the local industry.




China is planning to enter its second major period of agricultural reform since the 1980s, targeting to transform into large farms and "professionalized" farmers. However, China has a small-scale farm history for 2000 years, and it encountered challenge of the aging of its current generation farmers and the lack of successive workers. Therefore, to solve the problem, China will initiate the agricultural reform with the coming 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020), and accordingly formulate several policies and incentives. Firstly, it is primary to improve the system of property in rural China. Furthermore, professional farmers are permitted to operate large farms and raise the agricultural productivity in country. Those policies could encourage farmers to transfer their land to more productive farm managers, and establish joint-stock companies. Promisingly, new types of agribusinesses will enjoy economies of scale; meanwhile professional farm managers will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future. 

General Structure:	
Flow:	
Clarity:	
Formal Language:	
Overall:	

Example 2

China is going to enter the second major period of agricultural reform, with the goal of transforming the traditional small-plot farms to large farms and promoting the professional skills of farmers. It seems that small-plot farms are less suitable for the modern development of China agriculture. Moreover, China is facilitating the challenge since its current generation of farmers become old and there is a lack of successive workers. To solve this problem, Chinese 13th Five-Year Plan will be implemented, which will make land be used more efficiently. The plan appeals that land management should be registered and duly protected by law-----apart from land ownership rights. In addition, it is suggested that professional farm managers equipped with modern technologies and management methods will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future. Hopefully, the coming reform will encourage farmers to contract out their land to more productive farm managers and will help attract more highly skilled people to become China's future farm managers. 

B...Background; P...Problem; S...Solution; E...Evaluation



China **is going to enter**: better 'is entering' **the**: its second major period of agricultural reform, with the goal: **aim** of transforming the traditional small-plot farms into large farms and **promoting the professional skills**: better 'improving the skills' of its professional farmers: **farming population**. It seems: **appears** that small-plot **farms are**: **farming is...** less suitable for the modern development of China's agriculture. Moreover, **China is facilitating the challenge**: **unclear phrase** since its current generation of farmers **become old**: sentence to be re-structured using 'aging' **and**: better 'in addition, ...' there is a lack of **successive workers**. To solve this problem, **who?** China/the Chinese government...**is planning to implement**...Chinese 13th Five-Year Plan will be implemented, which **will make land be used**: to **informal** more **efficiently**: better '...facilitating more efficient use of farmland'. The plan **appeals**: verb choice that **land management should be registered and duly protected by law-----** **apart from land ownership rights**: original phrase 'for land management rights to be registered and duly protected by law - apart from land ownership rights', better to be re-phrased/shortened for abstract. In addition, it is **suggested**: by **whom?** that **professional farm managers equipped with modern technologies and management methods will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future**: original phrase 'Professional farm managers equipped with modern technologies and management methods will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future' **Hopefully**: not used often in academic writing, better 'It remains to be seen.../One of the questions remaining...'; the coming reform will encourage farmers to contract out their land to more productive farm managers and will help attract more highly skilled people to become China's future farm managers. ¶

Example 2

China is going to enter the second major period of agricultural reform, with the goal of transforming the **traditional** small-plot farms to large farms and promoting the professional skills of farmers. It seems that small-plot farms are less suitable for the modern development of China **agriculture**.**Moreover**, China is facilitating the challenge since its current generation of farmers become old and there is a lack of successive **workers**. To solve this problem, Chinese 13th Five-Year Plan will be **implemented**, which will make land be used more **efficiently**. The plan appeals that land management should be registered and duly protected by law-----apart from land ownership rights. In addition, it is suggested that professional farm managers equipped with modern technologies and management methods will be the mainstay of the country's agriculture in the future. **Hopefully**, the coming reform will encourage farmers to contract out their land to more productive farm managers and will help attract more highly skilled people to become China's future farm managers. ¶

General Structure:



Flow:



Clarity:



Formal Language:



Overall:



Summary

- > very encouraging results!
- > little informal language, good use of linking words
- > great progress in the parts assessed through peer review
-
- > remaining issues often a matter of feeling for the language
- > to improve that part, you must continue...



Summary

-> very encouraging results!

-> little informal language, good use of linking words

-> great progress in the parts assessed through peer review

-> remaining issues often a matter of feeling for the language

-> to improve that part, you must continue...

READING, READING, READING

Reading of Third Article

* 3rd article: to be studied until Friday

read on Monday, take notes, assess material

write summary on Tuesday, then read again

write short summary on Wednesday, read again

same for Thursday

-> on Friday, no need for the original article anymore!
