**Referencing – Spot the Mistake**

Look through the following examples of referencing and using the ALS referencing guide, identify where there has been a referencing error.

International students face many challenges when studying in Australia. Students, particularly those from non-Western backgrounds, struggle to cope with the rigorous demands of higher education. These demands include studying multiple subjects at once, taking control of their own learning outside of the classroom, and demonstrating critical thinking in written assignments. Additionally these students often cannot understand English confidently (Ong 2009) and have difficulty reading large amount of text in a short period of time. This can severe stress, especially as these students “attempt to acclimatise to a new culture’ (Ra & Trusty 2015).

While in Australia, international students can find it difficult to find a suitable place to live and secure a job that pays them correctly. There have been many instances of abuse by landlords providing extremely poor living conditions to vulnerable international students and employers paying well below the award rate. One study found that 25% of all students experience ‘some form of abuse’ while studying in Australia. Victimisation is especially common because international students do not know their rights or are afraid to speak up. These students are also afraid because of potentially losing their student visa. (Ong 20009)

There have been a number of government efforts to ensure that international students are supported and fairly treated while studying in Australia. The ESOS Act was introduced in 2000 to protect international student rights and provide tuition fee protection. The Fair Work Ombudsman can also investigate reported cases of abuse by employers to ensure that international students are paid correctly and treated fairly (Fair Work Ombudsman n.d.). Finally, there has been general promotion of the rights of international students across campuses and communities in the hope that more students are aware that there is help available (Ra & Trusty, 2015).

All students struggle to adjust to the demands of studying at the tertiary level, yet international students are particularly vulnerable and often require considerable assistance. As Smith (1998) suggests, Australian institutions and their respective staff must be aware of these challenges and provide adequate support to their students (Smith 1998). Moreover, the government must provide greater assistance to students when there are reported cases of abuse. This will protect the reputation of the Australian education system and ensure that international graduates play a positive role in our society should they stay in the country.

**References**

Ra, Y., & Trusty, J. (2015). Coping Strategies for Managing Acculturative Stress Among Asian International Students. *International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling*, 319-329.

Fair Work Ombudsman, n.d. ‘International Students’, available at <http://www.fairwork.gov.au/how-we-will-help/templates-and-guides/fact-sheets/rights-and-obligations/international-students>.

Ong, D, 2009. *The International Students’ Handbook: Living and Studying in Australia.* University of New South Wales Press.