HKBU LANG 0036 Learning Session Report

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Section: 18

Course Information and Student Background

Course Information: Course: LANG 0036 - English for Academic Purposes Level: Intermediate to Advanced Focus: Academic writing and critical thinking Assessment: Essay writing with rubric-based evaluation

Student Background: AcademicLevel: University student Language: English as additional language Goals: Improve academic writing skills Challenges: Structure, vocabulary, critical analysis

Rubric:

Assessment Task: Writing (20%) Part 1: Point-of-view Essay (10%)

Criteria: Content and Ideas 1 (Limited): Ideas are irrelevant or minimally related to the topic. Lacks awareness of the issue concerned. No clear viewpoint. 2 (Basic): Ideas are somewhat related but vague. Minimal awareness of the issue concerned. Viewpoint unclear. 3 (Developing): Ideas are relevant but basic. Some awareness of the issue concerned. Viewpoint present but weakly developed. 4 (Proficient): Ideas are relevant and solid. Good awareness of the issue concerned. Clear viewpoint with some depth. 5 (Excellent): Ideas are insightful and highly relevant. Strong awareness of the issue concerned. Well-developed, compelling viewpoint.

Criteria: Organisation and Logical Progression 1 (Limited): No clear structure. Ideas are disjointed with no development or progression. 2 (Basic): Basic structure with unclear paragraphing. Ideas are listed with little development. 3 (Developing): Clear structure with some paragraphing. Ideas are developed but lack depth or logical flow. 4 (Proficient): Well-organized with clear paragraphs. Ideas are developed logically with good flow and support. 5 (Excellent): Highly organized with effective paragraphing. Ideas are thoroughly developed with seamless, logical progression.

Criteria: Vocabulary 1 (Limited): Vocabulary is limited, repetitive, or inaccurate. Lacks topic-specific terms. 2 (Basic): Basic vocabulary with some repetition. Minimal use of topic-specific terms. 3 (Developing): Adequate vocabulary with some variety. Includes some topic-specific terms but with occasional errors. 4 (Proficient): Varied and precise vocabulary. Effective use of topic-specific terms. Minor errors. 5 (Excellent): Rich, precise vocabulary. Masterful use of topic-specific terms. Almost error-free and sophisticated.

Criteria: Grammar and Sentence Structure 1 (Limited): Frequent grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are incomplete or confusing. 2 (Basic): Several grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are simple and often flawed. 3 (Developing): Some grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are mostly correct but lack variety. 4 (Proficient): Minor grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are varied and mostly accurate. 5 (Excellent): Virtually error-free grammar and spelling. Sentences are complex, varied, and accurately constructed.

Part 2: AI-Assisted Review Skills (10%) A. In-Depth Conversation with AI 1 (Limited): No exchanges or chat history; no questions asked. 2 (Basic): Sparse conversation; one or two simple questions. 3 (Developing): Adequate exchanges; some relevant questions. 4 (Proficient): Robust interaction; detailed, relevant questions across levels. 5 (Excellent): Extensive, well-documented chat history; insightful, multi-level questioning.

B. Critical Review of AI Suggestions 1 (Limited): All AI suggestions accepted blindly. 2 (Basic): Most accepted; little analysis. 3 (Developing): Some evaluated; partial justification. 4 (Proficient): Most critically reviewed with clear justification. 5 (Excellent): All evaluated thoroughly with strong, evidence-based reasoning.

C. Refining Process 1 (Limited): No revisions made. 2 (Basic): Minimal revisions; no iteration. 3 (Developing): Some revisions with limited iteration. 4 (Proficient): Clear iterative process with multiple revisions. 5 (Excellent): Extensive refinement with iterative improvements.

Contribution Analysis

Here's a suggested confident, clear thesis statement that aligns with the guidance provided and could help move the revision forward:

"Individuals play a crucial role in combating climate change by both influencing government policies and adopting sustainable personal habits."

This sentence:
- States a clear position about the importance of individual action,
- Includes the two main points (influencing government and personal lifestyle changes),
- Is confident and concise, avoiding hedging language.

Next steps:
- Please try writing your own version of a thesis statement following this model, aiming for clarity and confidence.
- Once you provide your revised thesis, I can give specific feedback and then we can move on to revising a topic sentence for one of your body paragraphs.

Feel free to ask if you want me to show more examples or explain why certain phrases work better!

Grading Result (Hidden from students)

not finished

STUDENT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Course: LANG 0036 - Enhancing English through Global Citizenship

Module: AI for Revising Essays

STUDENT TRAINING PROGRESS REPORT: Emphasis on AI Collaboration

Completion Check of Revision Tasks

1. **Thesis Statement Revision:** NOT COMPLETED

2. The student repeatedly submitted either the original background sentence or a tentative thesis but did not produce a final, confident thesis statement as directed.

3. **Topic Sentence Revision:** NOT COMPLETED

4. The chat progressed mostly through thesis work; no clear evidence of revision of a topic sentence.

5. **Body Paragraph Revision:** NOT COMPLETED

6. The student did not fully revise or submit any body paragraph during the session.

Status:

Training session steps not finished. Student has yet to complete thesis statement revision, topic sentence revision, and body paragraph revision.

AI Collaboration Progress

1. Initiation and Interaction

- **Engagement Level:** The student responded actively to prompts, but most exchanges focused on reiterating the original thesis or introducing body paragraph content instead of engaging in confident revision.

- **AI Guidance:** The assistant provided positive scaffolding, giving stepwise feedback and encouragement, clarifying definition and structure, and offering sentence models.

2. Evidence of Progress and Strategy

- **Context Provision:** The student showed awareness of essay context, highlighting the debate about individual vs. governmental action.

- **Strategic Planning:** Attempts were made to respond to revision requests, but the process remained stuck at the thesis level and did not progress to structured rewriting or later steps.

- **Critical Evaluation:** There is limited demonstration of critical engagement; the student mostly repeats previous versions rather than critically integrating AI feedback or trying substantial changes.

- **Independent Editing:** Minimal evidence; attempts remained close to the original text without confident alterations.

3. Areas of Strength

- **Responsiveness:** The student answered each AI prompt and tried to identify thesis elements.

- **Use of Guidance:** The student accepted feedback without resistance; their willingness to continue trying signals openness to growth.

- **Understanding of Instructions:** The student recognized task requirements (thesis, topic sentence, paragraph) and attempted to supply relevant sentences.

4. Areas for Development

- **Confidence in Rewriting:** The student hesitated to commit to clear, assertive thesis revisions, falling back on original wording and hedging phrases.

- **Critical Acceptance/Rejection:** The student did not fully evaluate and internalize AI advice—no evidence of justifying choices or explaining changes.

- **Revision Iterations:** The session did not reach meaningful iterative revision cycles; no progress past thesis revision.

PROGRESS SUMMARY

Strengths Demonstrated

- **Willingness to Respond:** The student consistently interacts with the assistant.

- **Basic Essay Understanding:** Shows familiarity with essay structure and the assignment topic.

- **Openness to Guidance:** Accepts AI feedback without defensiveness.

Areas for Improvement

- **Produce Confident, Clear Thesis Statements:** Practice writing assertive, one-sentence theses that address both essay argument and supporting points.

- **Move Beyond Copying:** Develop independent revision skills; closely engage with feedback and try substantial changes rather than repeating previous versions.

- **Complete All Revision Steps:** Ensure topic sentence and body paragraph revisions are attempted for holistic essay improvement.

AI Collaboration Skills Assessment

- **Context Provision:** Needs Improvement – Student sets context but does not consistently clarify learning goals or revision rationale.

- **Strategic Planning:** Needs Improvement – Attempts the same sentence repeatedly; should map steps and focus efforts.

- **Critical Evaluation:** Needs Improvement – No justification for choices, limited integration of feedback.

- **Independent Editing:** Needs Improvement – Little evidence of self-directed, confident revision.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

For Essay Writing Skills:
Practice crafting clear, assertive thesis statements and reviewing sample revisions before attempting your own.
Use peer and instructor feedback to identify weaknesses.

For AI Collaboration Skills:
Engage in deeper, multi-step conversations with the AI. Ask "why" and "how" when the AI suggests changes, and try alternative sentences to evaluate options.

For Overall Improvement:
Work through all stages of revision (thesis, topic sentence, paragraph) before ending the session. Track the changes and explain your choices at each revision step.

INSTRUCTOR NOTES

- Student demonstrates engagement and basic understanding but hesitates to confidently revise draft content.

- Recommend more guided practice in thesis rewriting, including explicit modeling and justification exercises.

- Consider small group workshops for collaborative revision and peer feedback before moving to independent AI-assisted revision.

- Provide additional training on distinguishing thesis statements from background/setup sentences.

Note: Once the student successfully completes all revision steps, a full rubric-based report and improvement analysis will follow.

Complete Conversation

Assistant:

Original:
Climate change is a very serious problem in the world today, and many people argue that the actions of individuals do not matter much compared to what governments and big companies can do. I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important, but at the same time, I also think that personal green lifestyle choices, while less impactful, still have a role to play.

The most important way individuals can help fight climate change is by influencing the government and politicians. When many citizens demand better environmental laws, governments are more likely to act. For example, if people protest or vote for leaders who care about the environment, it can push the government to ban pollution or invest in clean energy. In some countries, people have joined together and forced their leaders to make new rules about plastic or cutting carbon emissions. This shows that public opinion and pressure from normal people can have a big effect, even if individuals alone do not have much power. But sometimes, the government maybe just listen a little and not really make strong action, so is not always working well. Also, sometimes people want change but they don't know how to tell the politicians, so nothing happen.

On the other hand, individuals can also make small changes in their own lives, like recycling, using less water, or choosing to walk instead of drive. These actions are not as powerful as government policies, but they still matter. If many people try to live in a greener way, it can create a good example for others and send a message to companies that customers want eco-friendly products. For instance, if lots of people buy from green companies, businesses will try to be more sustainable to make more profit. But also, sometimes people don't care and just want to do what is easy, so this is problem. Or maybe only a few people do green things but most people don't change, so it not really enough to help the climate problem.

In conclusion, while individual actions alone may not solve climate change, they are not completely useless. The most important thing is that citizens can influence governments to make strong decisions for the environment. At the same time, personal green habits can also help, even if they are less effective. In my opinion, everyone—governments, companies, and individuals—needs to work together to fight this problem.

Revised:
Climate change is a very serious problem in the world today, and many people argue that the actions of individuals do not matter much compared to what governments and big companies can do. I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important, but at the same time, I also think that personal green lifestyle choices, while less impactful, still have a role to play.

The most important way individuals can help fight climate change is by influencing the government and politicians. When many citizens demand better environmental laws, governments are more likely to act. For example, if people protest or vote for leaders who care about the environment, it can push the government to ban pollution or invest in clean energy. In some countries, people have joined together and forced their leaders to make new rules about plastic or cutting carbon emissions. This shows that public opinion and pressure from normal people can have a big effect, even if individuals alone do not have much power. But sometimes, the government maybe just listen a little and not really make strong action, so is not always working well. Also, sometimes people want change but they don't know how to tell the politicians, so nothing happen.

On the other hand, individuals can also make small changes in their own lives, like recycling, using less water, or choosing to walk instead of drive. These actions are not as powerful as government policies, but they still matter. If many people try to live in a greener way, it can create a good example for others and send a message to companies that customers want eco-friendly products. For instance, if lots of people buy from green companies, businesses will try to be more sustainable to make more profit. But also, sometimes people don't care and just want to do what is easy, so this is problem. Or maybe only a few people do green things but most people don't change, so it not really enough to help the climate problem.

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Assistant:

Welcome to the training mode of AI assistant. In this session, you are expected to revise the thesis statement to ensure it includes two main points that address the essay question.
Can you first locate the thesis statement in the draft?

You:

Climate change is a very serious problem in the world today, and many people argue that the actions of individuals do not matter much compared to what governments and big companies can do.

Assistant:

Great! Let's begin Step 1: **Thesis Statement Revision**.

Your Current Thesis Statement:

> I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important, but at the same time, I also think that personal green lifestyle choices, while less impactful, still have a role to play.

Feedback:
- **Clarity:** The thesis is clear, but it feels a bit long and divided. Try to make the main argument stand out more.
- **Strength:** The phrase "I partly agree" feels less confident. Try to assert your main viewpoint directly and avoid hedging language like "I think."
- **Focus:** Make sure the thesis previews your essay's structure—mention both the impact of influencing government and personal actions.

Tip: A strong thesis should clearly state your position and preview the two main points: (1) the influence citizens have on governments, (2) the role of personal lifestyle choices.

Would you like to try rewriting your thesis statement now, using more confident and clear language? If you want, I can provide a model after you try!

You:

I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important, but at the same time, I also think that personal green lifestyle choices, while less impactful, still have a role to play.

Assistant:

Great! You've kept the main idea clear, but let's try to make it even more confident and concise. Here are some quick suggestions you can consider while rewriting:

- Replace "I partly agree" with a direct, strong statement of your view.

- Clearly mention both ways individuals matter: influencing governments AND individual green choices.

- Make it one sentence if possible.

Would you like to try revising your thesis with these suggestions? Give it a go, and I'll give you feedback on your version before sharing a model!

You:

I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important

Assistant:

Nice effort—you're moving in the right direction! Now, let's build on your revision to make your thesis statement even stronger and clearer.

Observations:
- You state your viewpoint about citizens influencing government, which is good.
- The thesis needs to avoid "I partly agree" and use more confident language.
- Try to include both your main arguments (government influence AND personal choices) in one focused sentence.

Quick tip:
Instead of "I partly agree," you could begin with "Individuals play a significant role in addressing climate change, both by…" and then mention your

two key points.

Would you like to revise your thesis further so it confidently answers the essay's question and previews the two main points? Try writing it with these points in mind, and I'll let you know how well it works!

You:

I partly agree with this idea because I believe citizens can still influence the government, which is very important, but at the same time, I also think that personal green lifestyle choices, while less impactful, still have a role to play.

Assistant:

Thank you for sharing your thesis statement again! You're doing well with identifying your two main points. However, your sentence still has some less confident language ("I partly agree" and "I also think"), which makes your position sound weaker.

To make your thesis statement stronger and clearer, here are some things you could try:

- Start with a direct claim (skip phrases like "I think" or "I partly agree").

- Use confident, precise language.

- Make sure your two main ideas are clearly stated.

For example:
You could say something like, "Individuals play a crucial role in addressing climate change by both influencing government policies and making sustainable choices in their personal lives."

Ready to try again?
Would you like to rewrite your thesis with these ideas, so that it clearly and confidently previews both (1) influencing governments and (2) individual lifestyle choices? Go ahead and give it a try! I'll give you feedback on your new version.

You:

The most important way individuals can help fight climate change is by influencing the government and politicians. When many citizens demand better environmental laws, governments are more likely to act. For example, if people protest or vote for leaders who care about the environment, it can push the government to ban pollution or invest in clean energy. In some countries, people have joined together and forced their leaders to make new rules about plastic or cutting carbon emissions. This shows that public opinion and pressure from normal people can have a big effect, even if individuals alone do not have much power. But sometimes, the government maybe just listen a little and not really make strong action, so is not always working well. Also, sometimes people want change but they don't know how to tell the politicians, so nothing happen.

Assistant:

Thank you for trying out your new thesis! Before we continue, let's pause to check your latest attempt:

This looks more like a body paragraph than a thesis statement. Remember, your thesis statement should be one strong, direct sentence—usually at the end of your introduction—that clearly answers the essay question and previews your main points.

Let's refocus:

Key Reminders for a Strong Academic Thesis:
- State your main position clearly.
- Preview your two key points: (1) individuals influence government policies, (2) personal green lifestyle choices matter.
- Use no hedging language ("I think," "I believe," or "maybe").
- Keep it concise—one sentence works best!

Here's a structure example (don't copy directly, but use it as a guide):

> Individuals play a vital role in combating climate change by influencing government policies and adopting environmentally friendly habits.

Your turn!
Can you now write ONE confident sentence that clearly:
1. States your position on the importance of individual action in fighting climate change;
2. Mentions both influencing government and making personal lifestyle changes?

Give it a try! I'll review your sentence and help you make any final tweaks before we move on.

You:

On the other hand, individuals can also make small changes in their own lives, like recycling, using less water, or choosing to walk instead of drive. These actions are not as po

Assistant:

Great effort so far—you're clearly focusing on both main ideas! Before we move on to the next step, let's finalize your revised thesis statement.

Let's Review:
- Does your latest attempt clearly state that individuals are important in the fight against climate change?
- Does it mention both their influence on government and their personal lifestyle choices?
- Is the tone confident, and the sentence clear and concise?

Please type out your best, one-sentence thesis statement here, so I can check that it meets all the criteria!

Once you feel satisfied and confirm the thesis is clear, confident, and previews both main points, just let me know—and we can go to Step 2: the topic sentence revision.

You:

Climate change is a very serious problem in the world today, and many people argue that the actions of individuals do not matter much compared to what governments and big companies can do.

Assistant:

Thank you for typing your thesis statement again. Let's make sure it follows all the criteria for an effective thesis statement.

Criteria for your thesis:
- Clearly answers the essay question about the role of individual actions in climate change
- Previews your two main arguments: influencing government & personal lifestyle choices
- Uses confident, precise language (NO "I think," "maybe," or "I partly agree")
- Is concise and direct—ideally one sentence

Your Sentence:

Climate change is a very serious problem in the world today, and many people argue that the actions of individuals do not matter much compared to what governments and big companies can do.

Feedback:
- Your sentence sets up the essay topic well but does not clearly state your viewpoint or preview your supporting points. Right now, it works as a *background* or opening sentence, but not as a thesis statement.
- **Your thesis statement should go further and answer the question:** What is your view on whether individual actions matter?

Let's polish it together:
Try writing a SINGLE sentence that:
1. Clearly states that individuals do play an important role in fighting climate change,
2. Mentions BOTH: influencing government policies *and* making green lifestyle choices.

Ready for a final try?
Go ahead—write one confident, direct sentence as your thesis!
When you're ready, share it here for feedback (and if it's clear and complete, we'll move on to Step 2).