



Australian
National
University

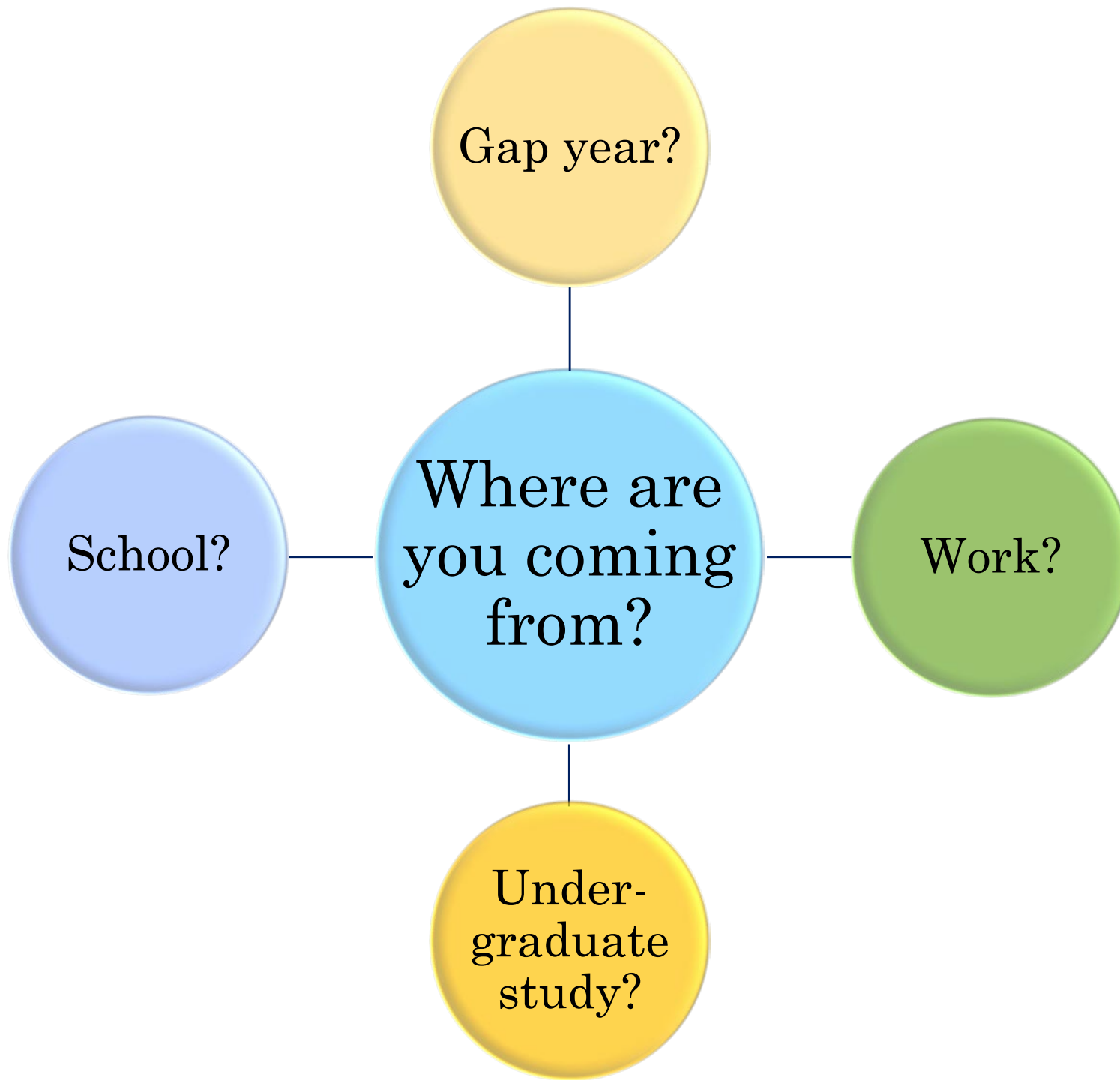
New at ANU: domestic

ANU Academic Skills

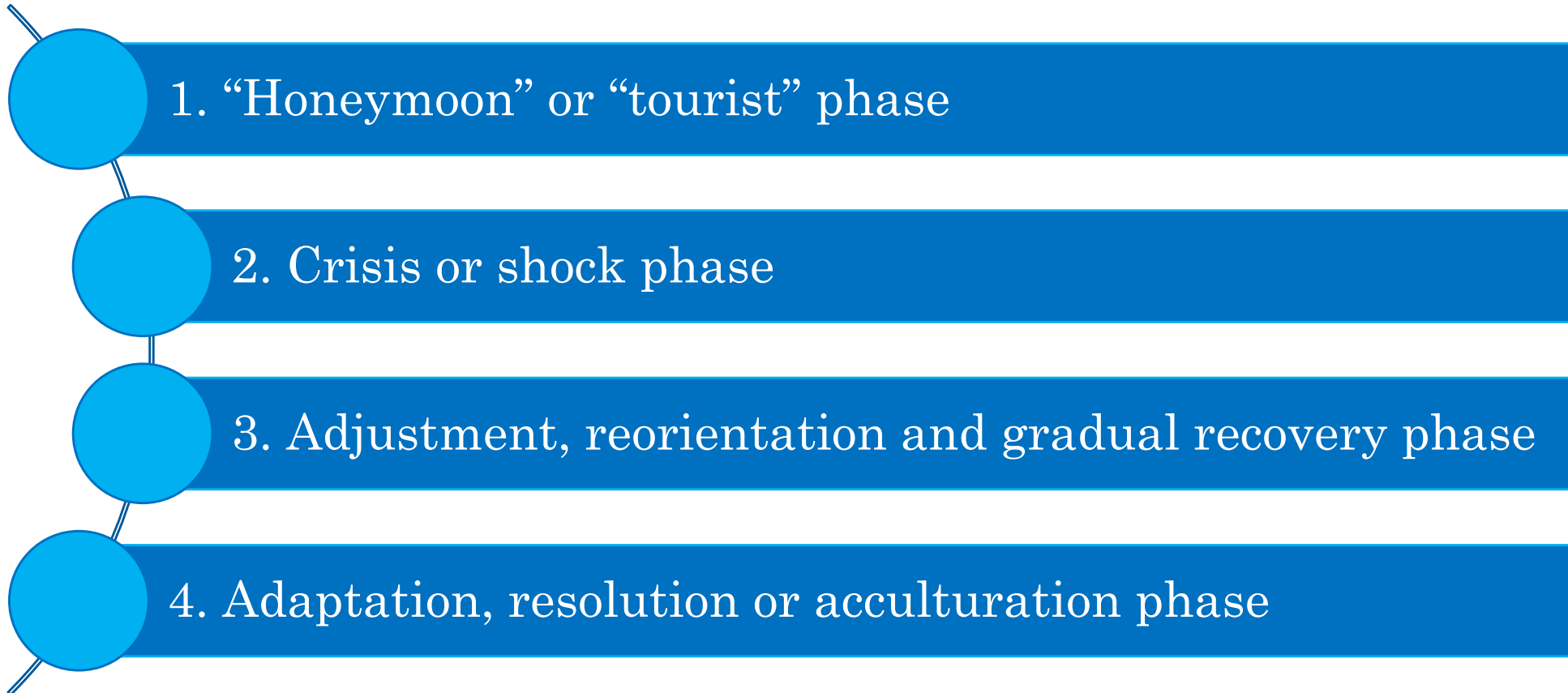
Introduce yourself to the
person next to you

Where are you from and what
are you studying?





Transition phases



Cultural practices that
we see – explicit

Academic
practices that
we see –
explicit

Cultural practices that
are hidden – implicit

Academic
practices that
are hidden –
implicit

Food

Due dates

Grades Dress

Course requirements Language

Class attendance

Manners

Speaking up in class

Treatment of guests

Courtship practices

Writing style

Acknowledging sources

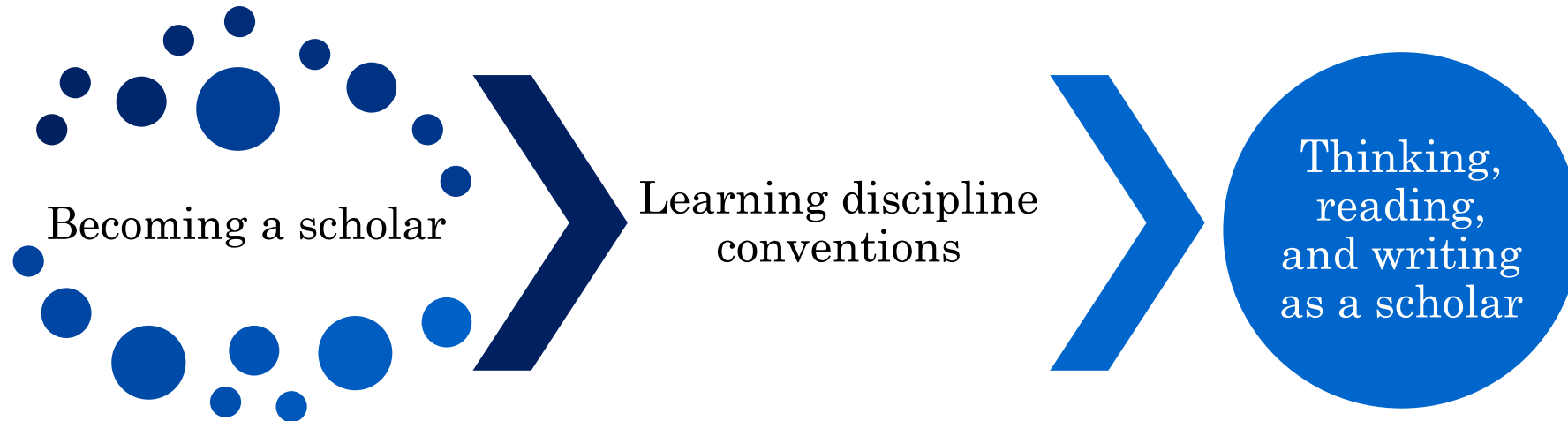
Seeking help

What to call the professor

Body language

Helping friends with their work

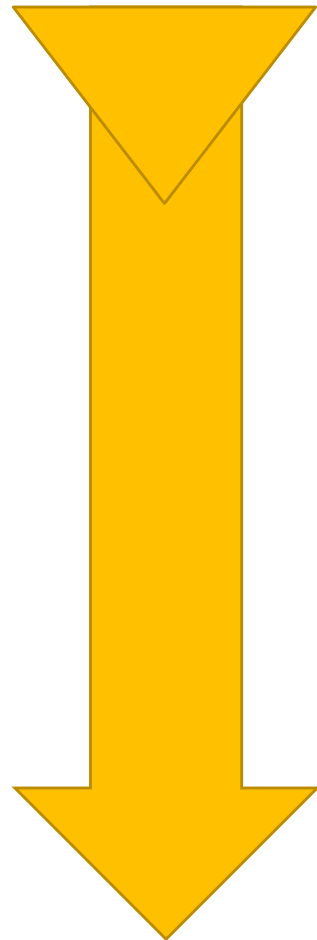
Adjusting to a new community (of scholars)



Academic writing is at its heart a
persuasive genre.

It requires the writer to communicate a
well reasoned and evidenced argument.

Our academic culture is a writer responsible culture...

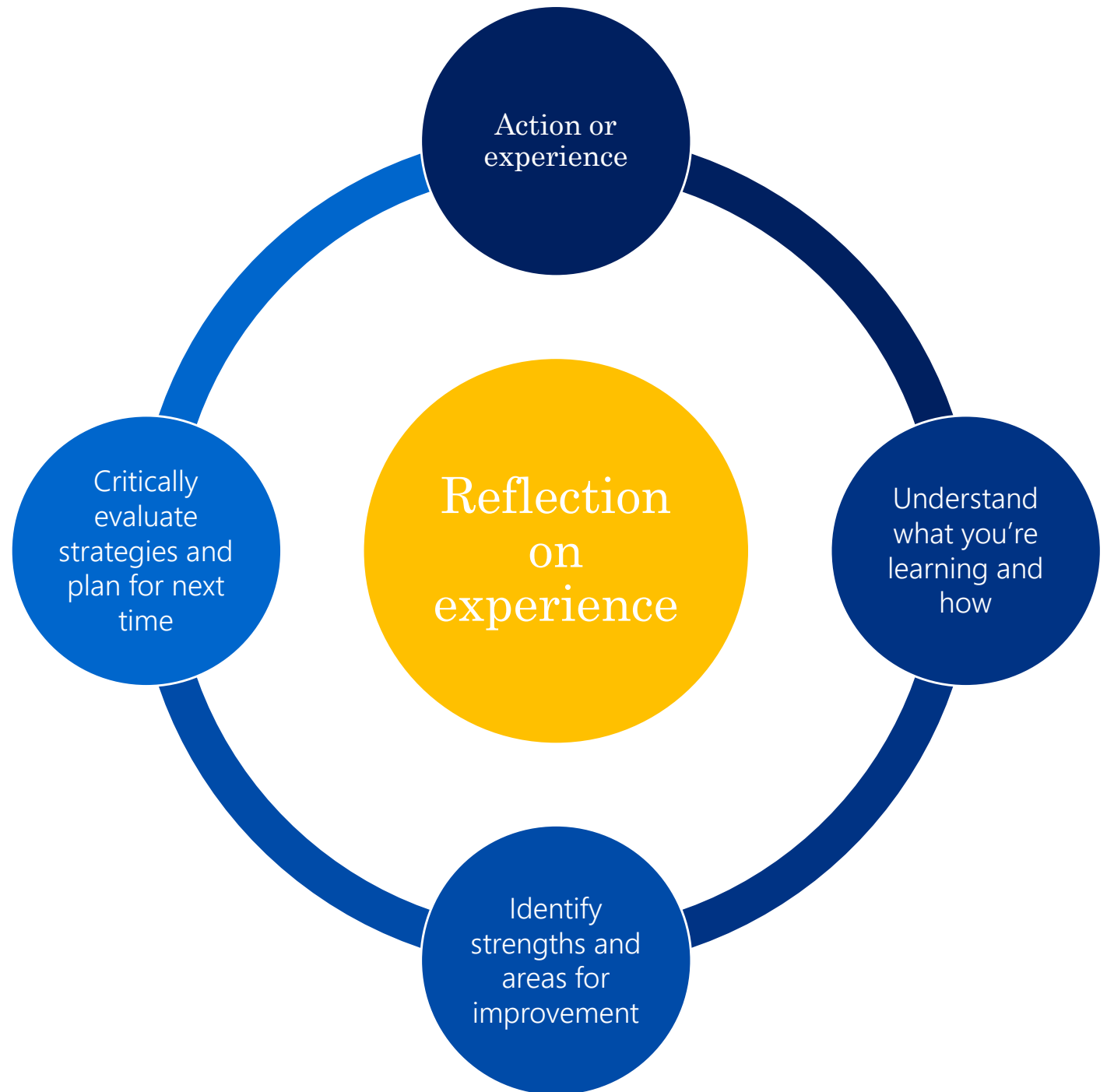


We want to know the end of your argument at the start

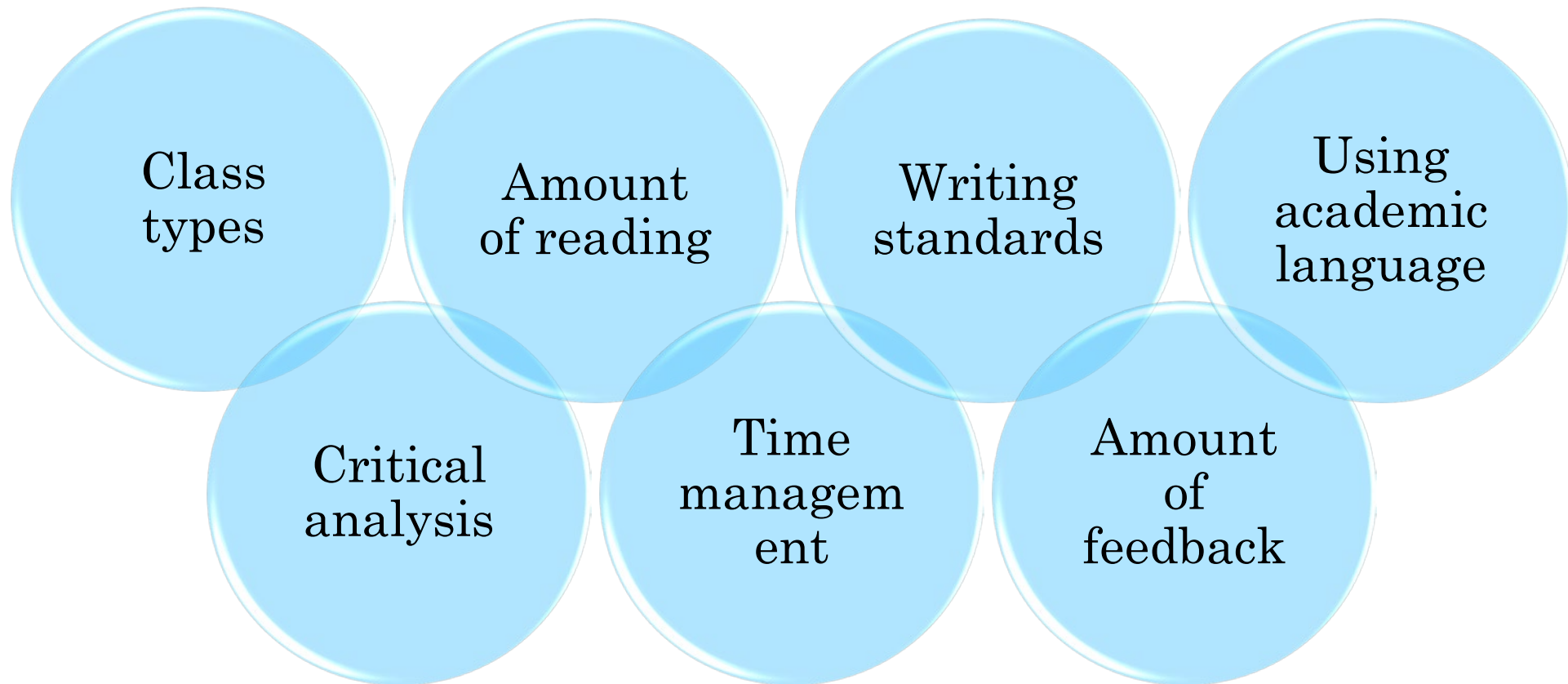
Be reminded of it all the way through

And for you to end with it too!

Adapting and transitioning



What challenges lie ahead for you?



What tools and strategies can
you use to ~~survive~~ *thrive* in
your first semester?

Managing your time



Top tips

- Plan out your semester and develop a weekly routine

ANU SEMESTER PLANNER

Course	Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	Break	Break	7	8	9	10	11	12	Exam	Exam	Exam
	Tasks	%																
ASIA 1030	GROUP PRESENTATION	10%					DUE											
	ESSAY 1	20%			DUE													
	ESSAY 2	30%										DUE						
	TAKE HOME Exam	30%															DUE	
POLS 1009	PROPOSAL	30%					DUE											
	RESEARCH PAPER	40%																DUE
	QUIZZES	30%		DUE		DUE				DUE		DUE		DUE				
HIST 1209	DOC EVALUATION	15%					DUE											
	ESSAY	35%											DUE					
	EXAM	50%																DUE
INDN 1003	TESTS x4	30%				DUE				DUE		DUE		DUE				
	QUIZZES x4	10%		DUE			DUE				DUE		DUE					
	INSTRUCTOR TASK	10%																
	ORAL EXAMS x2	50%					DUE											DUE

Academic Skills
anu.edu.au/students/learning-development
academic.skills@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6125 2972

Counselling
anu.edu.au/students/health-safety-wellbeing/counselling
counselling@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6178 0455

Access & Inclusion
anu.edu.au/students/health-safety-wellbeing/access-inclusion
access.inclusion@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6125 9036

Careers
anu.edu.au/students/careers-opportunities/careers
careers@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6125 3555

Medical Services
anu.edu.au/students/contacts/medical-services
Make an appointment rmc.co@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6178 0400

Dean of Students
anu.edu.au/students/contacts/dean-of-students
dean.student@anu.edu.au
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anusa@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6125 2444

PARSA
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parsa@anu.edu.au
+61 2 6125 4167

Emergency: 000
ANU Security +61 2 6125 2249

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Suggested strategies

- Use a semester planner
- For each assessment, break down the task and reflect on how much time you need to complete each task
- Develop good habits that incorporate enough time for editing your work
- Go to a *Managing your time* workshop

Preparing for and participating in classes



Lectures

- For delivering core content

Laboratories

- For testing and experimenting
- Used in science, computer science, languages, engineering

Workshops/Seminars

- Combination of lecture/tutorial
- Used in some disciplines

Tutorials

- For discussing core concepts
- Used mostly in humanities

Suggested strategies

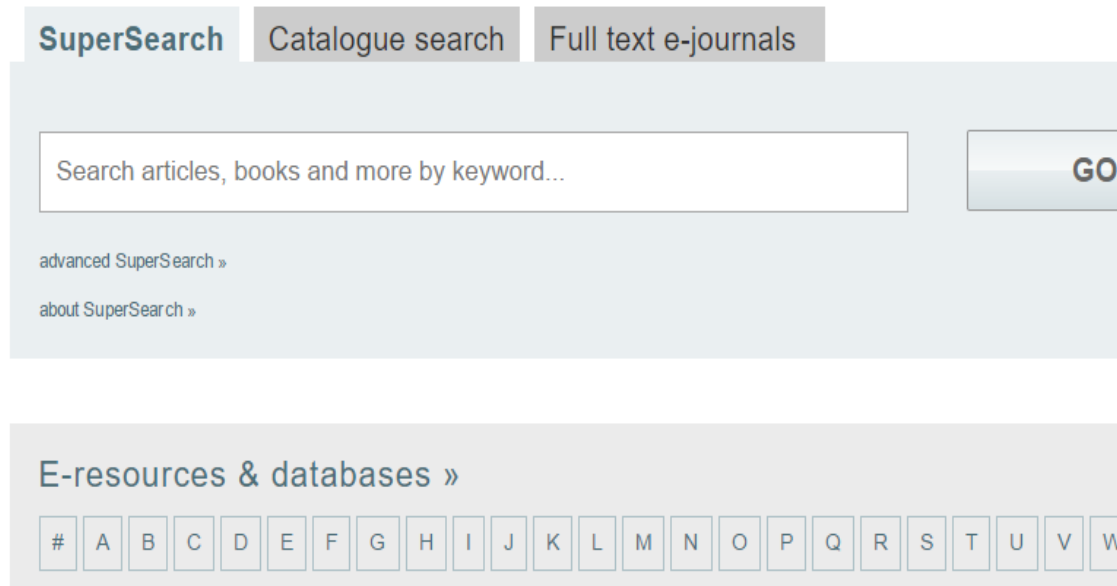
- Find out which classes have compulsory participation
- Take active lecture notes
- Prepare for tutorials: ask yourself questions while doing the readings
- Write down your questions and responses you can share in class

Researching and finding sources



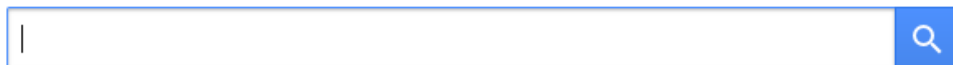
Top tips

- Use SuperSearch and Google Scholar



The screenshot shows the SuperSearch interface with three tabs: 'SuperSearch' (active), 'Catalogue search', and 'Full text e-journals'. Below the tabs is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search articles, books and more by keyword...' and a 'GO' button. Below the search bar are links for 'advanced SuperSearch »' and 'about SuperSearch »'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'E-resources & databases »' with a row of buttons for each letter of the alphabet and a '#' button.

Google Scholar



The screenshot shows the Google Scholar search bar, which is a white input field with a blue search button on the right.

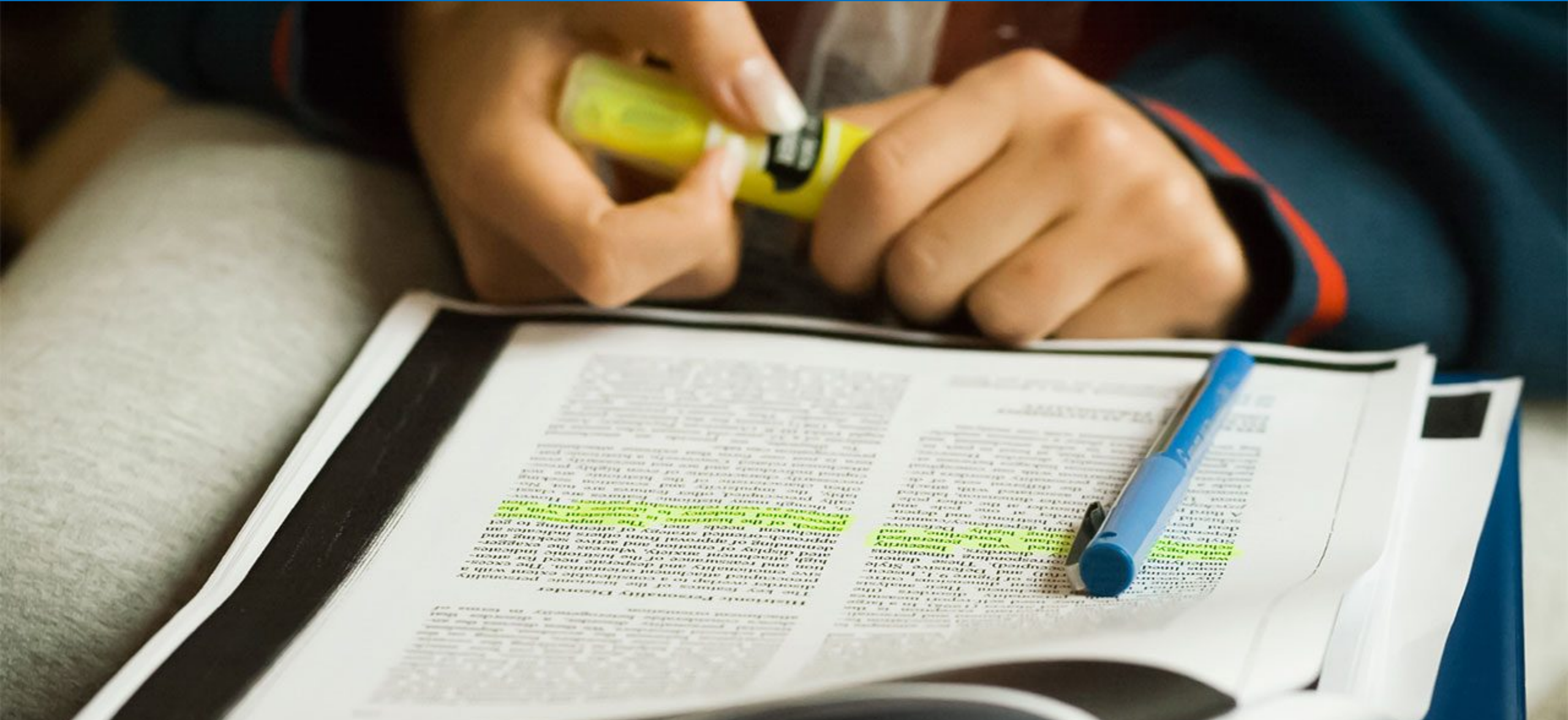
☒ Articles ☐ Case law

Stand on the shoulders of giants

Suggested strategies

- Attend a Library workshop
- Check out the online resources
- Go to a *Researching and finding sources* workshop

Reading and evaluating sources



Top tips

PURPOSE

Why am I
reading
this?

1. Search

2. Skim

3. Select

4. Study

Suggested strategies

- You don't have to read every word!
- Focus on the main ideas first, then the details
- Go to the *Reading and note-taking* workshop

Note-taking

1/20/10

Critical Reading: understanding the text
writing: descriptive
- what's the author trying to do?

Critical Thinking: trying to decide what to accept/believe
writing: response
- asking questions
- is this person right? why/why not?

Critical Reading

MECHANICS OF THE ARGUMENT

Rhetorical Situation:
something you have to
take into account for an
effective argument

- circumstances

thesis
point they're
trying to make

style, tone,
mechanics, address
or appeal to
rhet

Top tips

- Develop a system that works for you

Lecture 2: Title of Lecture, Lecturer's name, ¶	
Cue Column: ¶	Notes Column: ¶
• → Comments ¶	• → Leveled bullet points ¶
• → Follow-up points ¶	• → Abbreviations ¶
	• → Lists ¶
	• → Etc ¶
●	• → Leave spaces so you can go back and add points in if needed ¶
Connections ¶	
	• → Make use of colour, underlining, asterisks and highlighters to accentuate words, ideas, people. ¶
●	
Record times if lecture is recorded ¶	
Summary section: in a few sentences, what was the key message/theme of the lecture and how does it fit in the course/topic. ¶	

Suggested strategies

- Ask questions while you read
 - Similarities / differences?
 - Why do the authors say this?
 - Why relevant to the course?
- Try different systems (writing, typing, Cornell, mind mapping)
- Make summaries
- Go to the *Preparing for exams* workshop
- Look at our Note-taking webpage

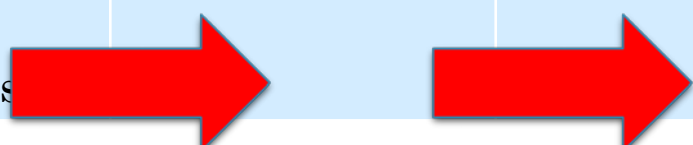
Using sources



Top tips

- Paraphrase from your notes

Paragraph	Notes	Paraphrased sentence
On March 4, 1933, her husband [Franklin D. Roosevelt] was inaugurated as the 32d President, and Eleanor Roosevelt began her 12 years as the First Lady. At the White House she established a weekly conference with the press, the first of its kind ever held by a First Lady, and attended only by women journalists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• became First Lady in 1933 when her husband became the 32nd US President• Was First Lady for 12 years• First to give women journalists weekly access to the White House.	Eleanor Roosevelt was US First Lady for 12 years, starting in 1933 when her husband became the 32nd US President.[ref] As US First Lady, Mrs Roosevelt fostered good relations with the press by giving women journalists weekly access to the White House.



Suggested strategies

- Don't try to include everything
- Show your understanding of the source's argument
- Explain why the source is relevant to your argument
- Go to the *Using sources* workshop

Developing academic writing skills



Top tips

- Develop a key message/argument

ESSAY WRITING

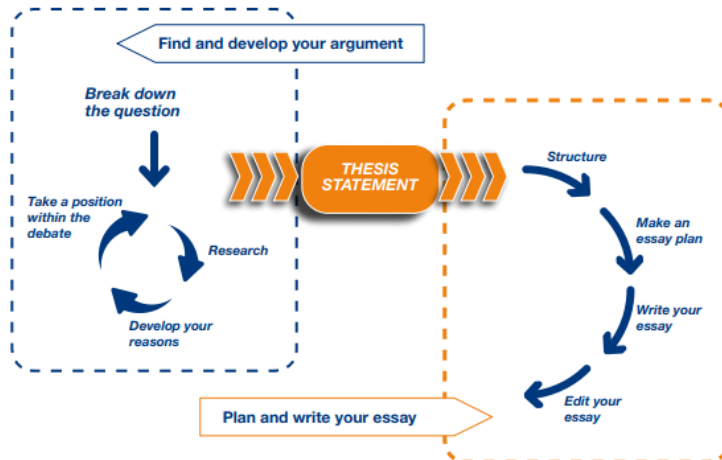
For the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

Academic essay writing is persuasive. You are expected to take a position and present an argument in order to convince the reader of your views. Arguing for a position goes beyond simple description or the presentation of a series of facts. It means understanding the question, engaging with the debate and using evidence critically.

This booklet provides strategies you can use to help refine, structure and present your position and argument throughout a written essay. The following diagram outlines the essay writing process as it is presented in this booklet.

The principles of persuasive writing presented here apply to most forms of academic writing and can be adapted to all disciplines.

A position refers to taking a stance on a question or an issue. An argument is a list of reasons, supported by evidence, that are used to persuade readers of that position.



Suggested strategies

- Familiarise yourself with persuasive writing techniques
 1. Clear thesis statement
 2. Signpost the structure
 3. Topic sentences that develop line of argument
- Attend an *Essay writing* workshop
- Check out the online resources

Referencing

Author/s name/s



Year



Title of article



Wolfe, K, Wu, X & Lui, R 2003, 'Antioxidant activity of apple peels',
Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, vol. 51, no. 3, pp. 609-614.

Journal title



Volume



Issue

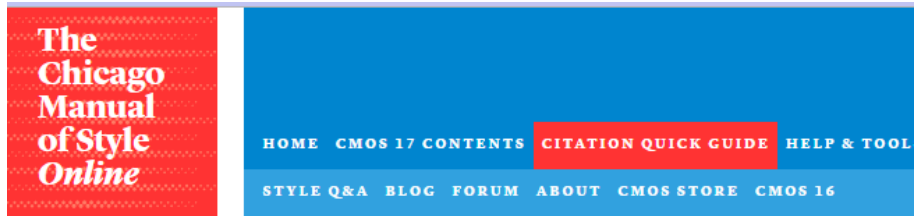


Page numbers



Top tips

- **ALWAYS** consult a style guide and use reputable referencing software



Notes and Bibliography: Sample Citations

Go to Author-Date: Sample Citations

The following examples illustrate the notes and bibliography systems. Sample notes show full citations followed by shortened citations of the same sources. Sample bibliography entries follow the same pattern. For more examples, see [chapter 14](#) of *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Examples of the same citations using the Author-Date link above.

Book

Notes

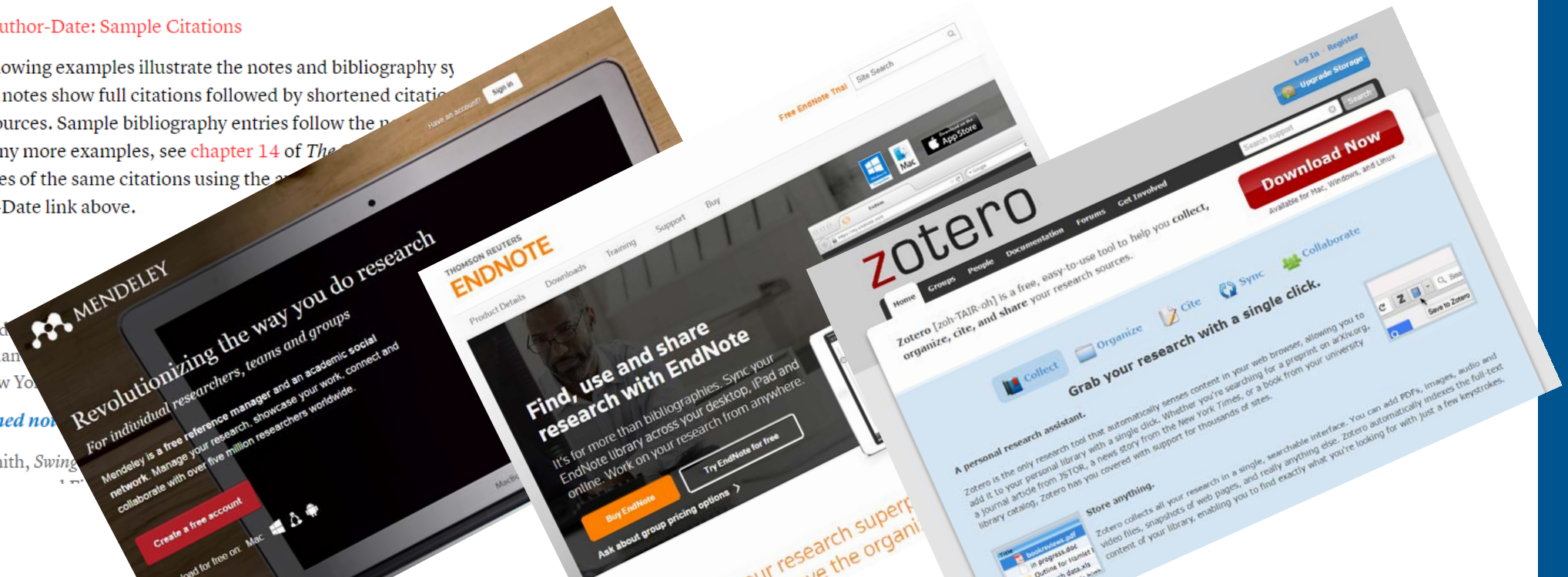
1. Zaidi, *The*
2. Brian, *Life* (New York: ...)

Shortened notes

3. Smith, *Swing*

Suggested strategies

- Find out what styles you need to use
- Check out the Monash referencing guides
- Attend a *Referencing* workshop



Turnitin practice site

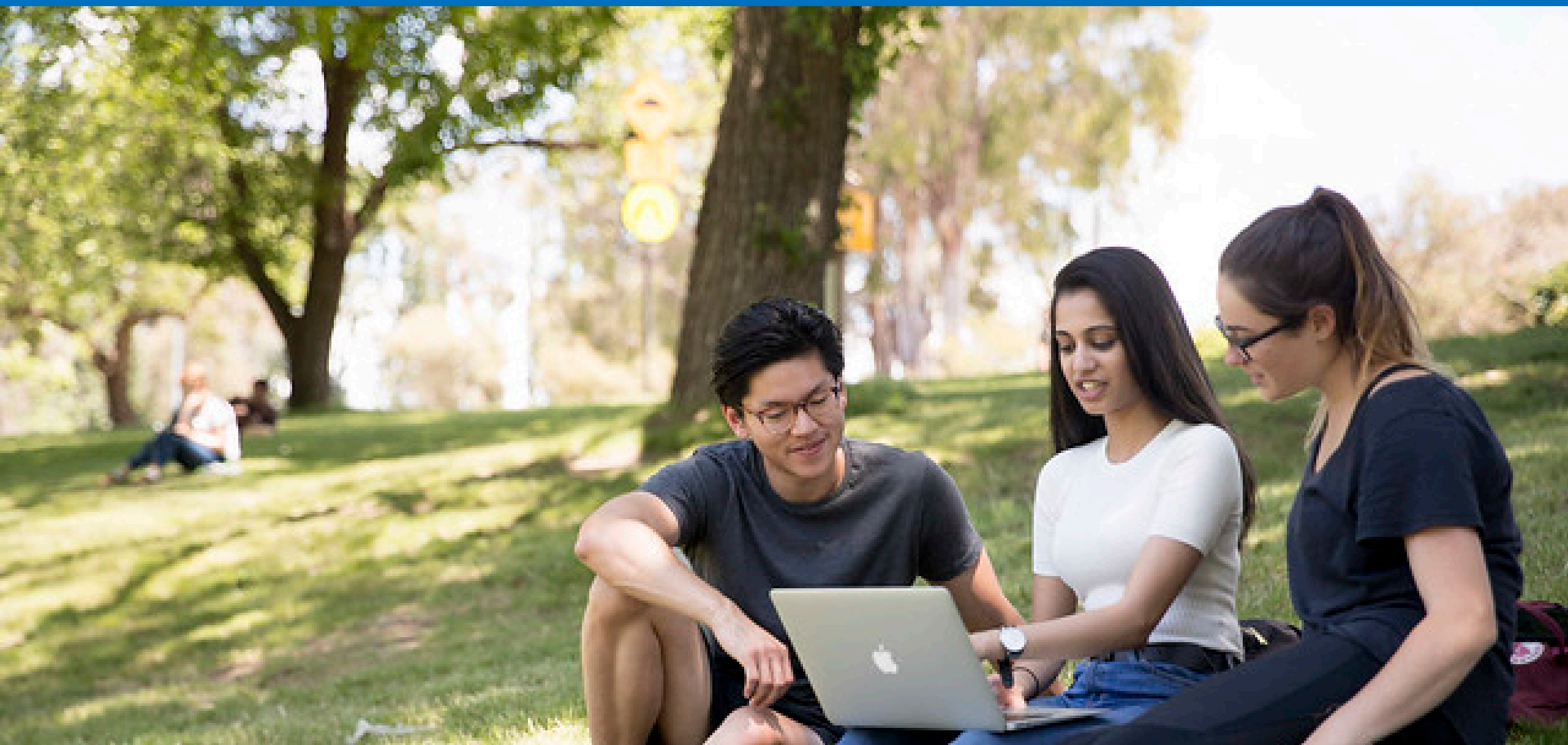
Upload your drafts

Learn about your originality report



- Enrol in the Turnitin Practice site
- Leave time to check your report
- Check your quotes, paraphrases and citations

Get to know your fellow students



Finally, be proactive – seek help early.

There is plenty of support available; you are not alone in your journey!

Ask for help!

Study help

- Lecturer and tutor office hours
- Study groups
- [Academic Skills](#)
- [Counselling centre](#)
- [Access and Inclusion](#)

Social support

- [ANUSA](#) and [PARSA](#)
- Facebook: New@ANU, ANUSA
- Use tutorials to make friends
- [ANU clubs and societies](#)

Can't go to one of the workshops?

- Enrol in our Orientation Wattle site
- Check out our Study Skills website
- Google *ANU academic skills*

ACADEMIC SKILLS WRITING CENTRE

**We're here
for you
throughout
your
degree.**



PEER WRITERS

10-15 minute
drop ins



WRITING COACHES

30 minute
booked
appointments



LEARNING ADVISERS

45 minute
booked
appointments



LET'S SPEAK ENGLISH!

Join fun conversation
groups, make new friends
and meet local students! All
ANU students welcome.

Weeks 1-12

Marie Reay Teaching
Centre



1-2pm Mon-Fri
Room 5.02



5-6pm Mon
Room 5.05



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