

Writing workshop Professional Practice 1

ANU Academic Skills

Your task

You need to submit your paragraph from this workshop as your Assignment Task 1B

Question to answer in your paragraph:

How has bitcoin challenged traditional notions of currency?



Re-cap

In the lecture we covered:

- Academic integrity expectations at ANU
- Why referencing is important
- How to reference including:
 - Using a style guide
 - Creating a reference
 - Using a citation generator
- In this workshop we will look at incorporating evidence into your writing



Ways to incorporate academic sources into your writing

Quote

- Copy others' words exactly
- Use sparingly when you want to highlight a key idea or key researcher/scholar

Paraphrase

- Explain someone's idea in detail using your own words
- Use when you need to provide specific detail/evidence of an author's argument

Summarise

- Succinctly explain someone's argument using your own words
- Use to capture the essence of an argument by so focusing on the main ideas only

Synthesize

- Combine multiple sources that have a similar argument
- Use to summarise multiples sources or to strengthen your argument

In computer science, various papers around blockchains have been published in recent years and have, e.g., analyzed consensus algorithms (e.g., Eyal and Sirer 2014) or proposed novel concepts to tackle issues regarding privacy of smart contracts (e.g., Kosba et al. 2016). However, besides a lot of industry whitepapers on blockchains, academic papers in information systems around blockchain currently primarily focus on crypto-currencies. Besides significant benefits, there are also drawbacks and potential risks which are discussed in this stream of literature. Barber et al. (2012) highlight several weaknesses of Bitcoin, such as theft or loss of Bitcoins (malware attacks, accidental loss), scalability issues (e.g., delayed transaction confirmation, data retention, and communication failures), and structural problems (e.g., deflationary spiral). At the same time, Barber et al. (2012) suggest solutions for improving the existing Bitcoin technology. For instance, a "fair exchange protocol" might improve the user's anonymity. Privacy implications of Bitcoin have also been discussed by other authors (e.g., Androulaki et al. 2013; Bonneau et al. 2014; Miers et al. 2013). In the current Bitcoin world, privacy can only be protected by using pseudonyms. As an extension to Bitcoin, Miers et al. (2013) therefore developed Zerocoin, which allows for trading cryptocurrencies completely anonymously. In 2016, Zcash, the successor of Zerocoin was launched.

In text referencing - check the style guide

Print	Electronic	
One author Two authors Three authors Four or more authors No author Citing a source within a source Newspaper article Newspaper article, no author Newspaper article from a news service Magazine article Magazine article, no author Annual report, print	One author Two authors T'	
	• F • N • A • A	Ho, W, Lee, W, Chan, C, Ng, Y & Choy, Y 2010, 'Hong Kong's elite structure, legislature and the bleak future of democracy under Chinese sovereignty', <i>Journal of Contemporary Asia</i> , vol. 40, no. 3, pp. 466-486.
	Paraphrasing - Author prominent	Data from Ho et al. (2010) demonstrate networks of individuals holding positions in multiple powerful organisations. *use et al. (note stop only after 'al.' not after 'et')
	Paraphrasing - Information	Universal suffrage in Hong Kong was moved to 1012, then to 2017, and then to 2020 (Ho et al. 2010, p. 467). *pinpoint the specific information *use et al.
	Quoting - Author promine	Ho et al. (2010, p. 466) argue that there is a 'systemic barrier against further democratic development'. *pinpoint the quote *use et al.
	Quoting - Information prominent	Democratic reform is prevented by 'substantial linkages [which] exist between the most powerful organisations' (Ho et al. 2010, p. 482). *pinpoint the quote *use et al. *square brackets indicate word added or altered for clarity



Include in text citation as you write

Paraphrasing - author prominent

Nofer et al. (2017)

Paraphrase - idea prominent

(Nofer et al. 2017)

Quoting - author prominent

Nofer et al. (2017, p.184)

Quoting - idea prominent

(Nofer et al. 2018, p.184)



Quote selectively...

- When the original text is a well written, key point that would be difficult to reword
- Quotes must:
 - match the original exactly
 - be formatted correctly
 - include a citation + page number
 - have some of your own words before and/or after to explain what the quote means in the context of your answer



A sample quote

Introductory text \

Quotation marks

Research has shown that it is possible to "avoid processor idle time by allowing the processors to continue to make progress even if not all progress made by other processors has been communicated to them" (Avron, Druinsky & Gupta 2015, p. 1).

Citation that includes the authors, year and page

Reference list

Avron, H, Druinsky, A & Gupta, A 2015, "Revisiting Asynchronous Linear Solvers: Provable Convergence Rate through Randomization", *Journal of the ACM*, vol. 62, no. 6, pp. 1-27.

Paraphrase vs summary

Both require rewriting someone else's idea(s) in your own words

Paraphrase	Summary
 Usually one idea from the text Usually around the same length as the original Uses some of the important terminology but wording and order are changed. 	 Usually taken from a much longer piece of text Much shorter than the original text Covers the main point of what the original author is saying / arguing.

Paraphrasing is harder to do correctly!



A sample summary

Summary of the author's main argument.

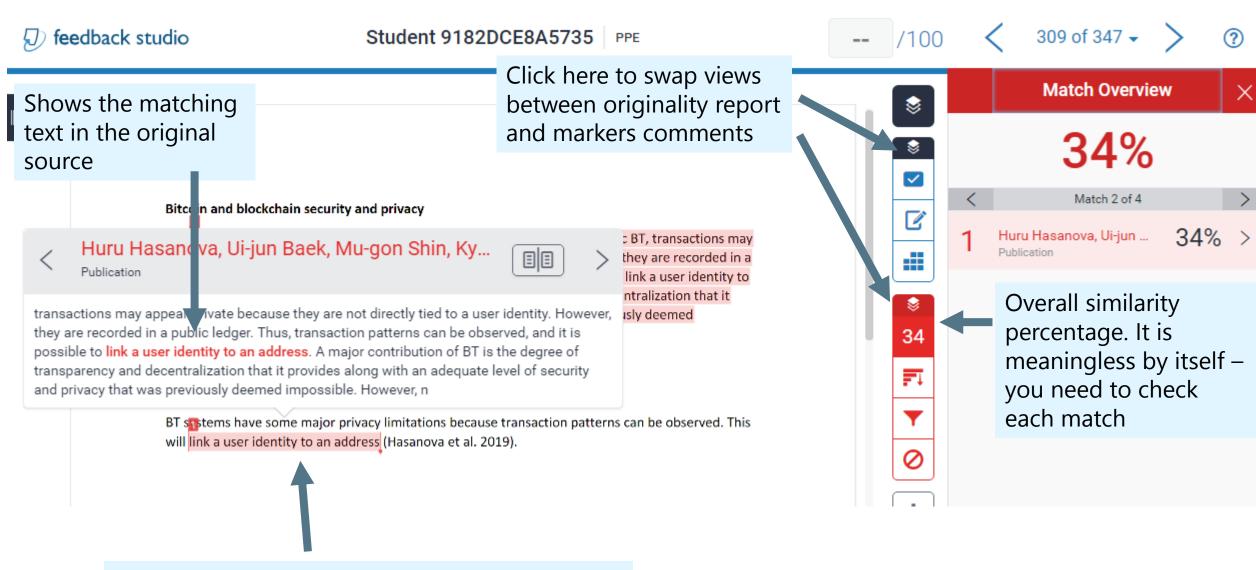
Whilst asynchronous methods have been researched and compared for 50 years, there remains limited understanding of how to avoid processor idle time (Avron, Druinsky & Gupta 2015).

Citation that includes the author and year

Reference list

Avron, H, Druinsky, A & Gupta, A 2015, "Revisiting Asynchronous Linear Solvers: Provable Convergence Rate through Randomization", *Journal of the ACM*, vol. 62, no. 6, pp. 1-27.

Turnitin



Colour-coded detail about sources that match

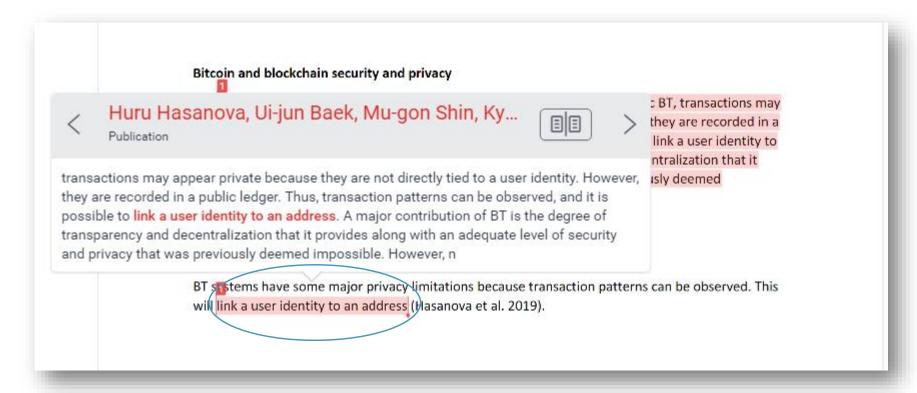
Original:

In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously deemed impossible. However, no solution for transaction privacy is perfect.

Plagiarism or not?

BT systems have some major privacy limitations because transaction patterns can be observed. This will link a user identity to an address (Hasanova et al. 2019).

What does Turnitin show?



Too close to the original

Original:

In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously deemed impossible. However, no solution for transaction privacy is perfect.

Plagiarism or not?

Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25) argue that although BT transactions appear private, "transaction patterns can be seen, and it is possible to match a user identity to an address".

What does Turnitin show?

BT systems have some major privacy limitations because transaction patterns can be observed. This

will link a user identity to an address (Hasanova et al. 2019).

Huru Hasanova, Ui-jun Baek, Mu-gon Shin, Ky...



n of BT systems is their privacy. In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously

Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25) argue that although BT transactions appear private, "transaction patterns can be seen, and it is possible to match a user identity to an address".

Not the same as the original (quote)

Original:

In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously deemed impossible. However, no solution for transaction privacy is perfect.

Plagiarism or not?

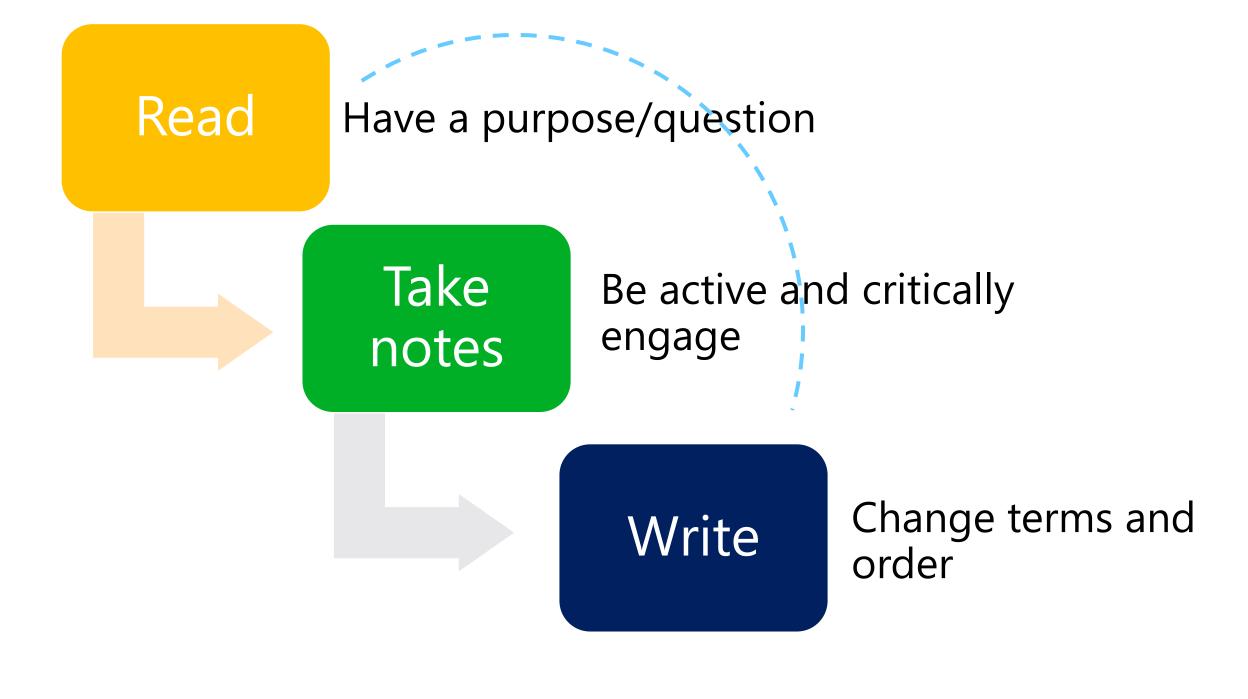
According to Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25) whilst BT technologies promise privacy and security, it is possible to trace a user by observing the pattern of transactions they make.

What does Turnitin show?

According to Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25) whilst BT technologies promise privacy and security, it is possible to trace a user by observing the pattern of transactions they make.

No match - correctly paraphrased and referenced





Use a systematic approach

Original text	Notes	Paraphrased sentence

Read the original text

Original text	Notes	Paraphrased sentence
In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously deemed impossible.		

Take some notes – key relevant points

Original text	Notes	Paraphrased sentence
In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and privacy that was previously	 BT provides transparency and decentralization BT transactions not directly linked to user but are kept in a public ledger Patterns in user transactions can be detected and this can link to a particular user BT appears secure but no solution is perfect 	
deemed impossible.		

Change the structure and the words

Original text	Notes	Paraphrased sentence
In the case of public BT, transactions may appear private because they are not directly tied to a user identity. However, they are recorded in a public ledger. Thus, transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address. A major contribution of BT is the degree of transparency and decentralization that it provides along with an adequate level of security and	 BT provides transparency and decentralization BT transactions not directly linked to user but are kept in a public ledger Patterns in user transactions can be detected and this can link to a particular user BT appears secure but no solution is perfect 	According to Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25) whilst BT technologies promise privacy and security, it is possible to trace a user by observing the pattern of transactions they make.
privacy that was previously deemed impossible.		

Check your paraphrase

- Have you conveyed the same meaning?
- Used different words?
- Changed the original sentence structure?
- Provided a citation?



Activity – taking notes

- Study the section we selected in Bacina and Kassra (2017).
- Take a few notes from the section.
- Discuss your notes at your table.
- Choose one point and write on the whiteboard.





Good summaries and paraphrases

- pull together (condense and synthesise) the text's main ideas
- show their relevance/connection for your task
- make it clear to readers where you stand on the specific issues.



Stance - how you convey your analysis and view





Voice - how you distinguish your ideas from others' Your choice of words, phrases and how you put them together creates your voice and stance



Finding your voice

- How does the reader know when you are paraphrasing and when you are making your own comments?
- How do you indicate your positive or negative appraisal of someone else's research and ideas?
- How do you show the extent of your commitment to particular ideas?



Adjectives, verbs, adverbs and nouns

"Evans' rigorous approach highlights the limitations..."

"To remedy this drawback, preprogramming of..."

"This is further supported by the observation that

"Edson et al. (1993) showed that..."

"Baumgartner and Bagozzi (1995) strongly recommend the use of..."

"The <u>thorough</u> research by Preston et al. (2018) and Carr (2016) <u>illustrates</u>..."

"Although West's (2017) <u>speculative</u> proposition has its *merits*..."



Contrasting or qualifying ideas

"Goyder's (2017) position, however, contrasts with..."

 "There is good reason, however, to question the results of West's (2017) study."

• "Although there is much to learn from Gatton et al. (2016) analysis, it is important to acknowledge..."



In computer science, various papers around blockchains have been published in recent years and have, e.g., analyzed consensus algorithms (e.g., Eyal and Sirer 2014) or proposed novel concepts to tackle issues regarding privacy of smart contracts (e.g., Kosba et al. 2016). However, besides a lot of industry whitepapers on blockchains, academic papers in information systems around blockchain currently primarily focus on crypto-currencies. Besides significant benefits, there are also drawbacks and potential risks which are discussed in this stream of literature. Barber et al. (2012) highlight several weaknesses of Bitcoin, such as theft or loss of Bitcoins (malware attacks, accidental loss), scalability issues (e.g., delayed transaction confirmation, data retention, and communication failures), and structural problems (e.g., deflationary spiral). At the same time, Barber et al. (2012) suggest solutions for improving the existing Bitcoin technology. For instance, a "fair exchange protocol" might improve the user's anonymity. Privacy implications of Bitcoin have also been discussed by other authors (e.g., Androulaki et al. 2013; Bonneau et al. 2014; Miers et al. 2013). In the current Bitcoin world, privacy can only be protected by using pseudonyms. As an extension to Bitcoin, Miers et al. (2013) therefore developed Zerocoin, which allows for trading cryptocurrencies completely anonymously. In 2016, Zcash, the successor of Zerocoin was launched.

Activity – writing a summary

 Using the notes on the whiteboard, complete this sentence:

According to Bacina and Kassra (2017)...





How did you go?

Bassina and Kasra (2017) highlight a key flaw in the security blockchain technology where privacy keys can be lost, just like real currency.





Topic sentence states the **point** - the idea and the argument

Supporting sentences incorporate evidence through quotes, paraphrases, summary and synthesis. May also include some description and your analysis/interpretation

Concluding sentence summarises the idea and/or links to the next

A paragraph addresses one main idea in approximately 150 – 200 words (200 in your case)

Topic Blockchain technology offers opportunities for increasing security and sentence privacy on the internet but there are some serious limitations. Blockchain technology has opened up a potential way of conducting transactions where less personal information needs to be shared (Bauerle nd). Researchers such as Zyskind, Nathan and Pentland Paraphrase (2015) suggest that by removing third parties from the transaction, blockchain provides an opportunity for users to have better control and ownership over their own datá. However, critics caution that there Summary are some serious challenges in terms of accountability when machines control transactions (Hutton 2017). Moreover, there are a number of ways in which the security of blockchain transactions can be compromised such as code-based attacks, double spending and dust Summary attacks (Bradbury 2013). Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25), point out "transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user Quote identity to an address". Additionally, Bassina and Kasra (2017) highlight a key flaw in the security blockchain technology where Paraphrase privacy keys can be lost, just like real currency. It is early days but analysis so far is indicating that there may be a number of issues that Concluding need to be considered before there is wider adoption of blockchain sentence technology.

What does Turnitin show?

Blockchain technology offers opportunities for increasing security and privacy on the internet but there are some serious limitations. Blockchain technology has opened up a potential way of conducting transactions where less personal information needs to be shared (Bauerle nd). Researchers such as Zyskind, Nathan and Pentland (2015) suggest that by removing third parties from the transaction, blockchain provides an opportunity for users to have better control and ownership over their own data. However, critics caution that there are some serious challenges in terms of accountability when machines control transactions (Hutton 2017). Moreover, there are a number of ways in which the security of blockchain transactions can be compromised such as codebased attacks, double spending and dust attacks (Bradbury 2013). Hasanover et al. (2019, p. 25), point out "transaction patterns can be observed, and it is possible to link a user identity to an address". Additionally, Bassina and Kasra (2017) highlight a key flaw in the security blockchain technology where privacy keys can be lost, just like real currency. It is early days but analysis so far is indicating that there may be a number of issues that need to be considered before there is wider adoption of blockchain technology.

Reference list

Bacina, M & Kassra, S 2017, 'Unlocking cryptocurrency token sales', *LSJ : Law Society of NSW Journal*, no. 37, pp. 79-81.

Bauerle, N n.d., 'What is Blockchain Technology?', *Coindesk*, viewed 14 March 2019, https://www.coindesk.com/information/what-is-blockchain-technology.

Bradbury, D 2013, 'The problem with Bitcoin', *Computer Fraud & Security*, vol. 2013, no. 11, pp. 5-8.

Hasanova, H, Baek, U, Shin, M, Cho, K & Kim, M 2019, 'A survey on blockchain cybersecurity vulnerabilities and possible countermeasures', *International Journal of Network Management*, pp. e2060.

Hutton, W 2017, 'Bitcoin is a bubble, but the technology behind it could transform the world', *The Guardian*, December 24, p. 32 (online ProQuest).

Zyskind, G, Nathan, O & Pentland, A 2015, 'Decentralizing Privacy: Using Blockchain to Protect Personal Data', *2015 IEEE Security and Privacy Workshops (SPW)*, 21-22 May, San Jose, CA, USA, pp. 180 – 184.

Activity – Unpack sample response

Bitcoin, a form of digital currency, can be considered a decentralized financial system that relies on scientific and technological principles in the virtual world, and the properties such as decentralization and anonymity challenge traditional notations of currency. Bitcoin Based on a non-regulated peer-to-peer network (Narayanan, Bonneau, Felten, Miller & Goldfeder, 2016), Bitcoin is more fair and equal than traditional currencies (Bacina & Kassra, 2017; Hopkins, 2018). This equal than traditional currencies (Bacina & Rassia, 2017, Hopkins, 2010). This electronic commodity releases control from central financial institutions to individual users to manage crypto funds directly. Bitcoin also removes the need for centralised financial and regulation practices like fees, transaction limits and taxes (Hutton 2017), but nobody except the individual user can access your Bitcoin wallet (Bacina & Kassra 2017). While functioning like a conventional bank system to avoid duplicated transactions, Bitcoin further updates transactions to Blockchain (Bauerle, 2008), a public ledger, every ten minutes. There is no identity document tied to Bitcoin transactions and account registrations (Narayanan, Bonneau, Felten, Miller & Goldfoder 2016). This greatly increases the anonymity and security of personal & Goldfeder 2016). This greatly increases the anonymity and security of personal information and financial data, protecting the individual against fraud and identity theft. In conclusion, Bitcoin indeed revolutionises modern banking and could be one of the biggest competitors of traditional currencies in the future as more people accept the concept of digital currency.

Sample response

Bitcoin, a form of digital currency, can be considered a decentralized financial system that relies on scientific and technological principles in the virtual world, and the properties such as decentralization and anonymity challenge traditional notations of currency. Bitcoin Based on a non-regulated peer-to-peer network (Narayanan, Bonneau, Felten, Miller & Goldfeder, 2016), Bitcoin is more fair and equal than traditional currencies (Bacina & Kassra, 2017; Hopkins, 2018). This electronic commodity releases control from central financial institutions to individual users to manage crypto funds directly. Bitcoin also removes the need for centralised financial and regulation practices like fees, transaction limits and taxes (Hutton 2017), but nobody except the individual user can access your Bitcoin wallet (Bacina & Kassra 2017). While functioning like a conventional bank system to avoid duplicated transactions, Bitcoin further updates transactions to Blockchain (Bauerle, 2008), a public ledger, every ten minutes. There is no identity document tied to Bitcoin transactions and account registrations (Narayanan, Bonneau, Felten, Miller & Goldfeder 2016). This greatly increases the anonymity and security of personal information and financial data, protecting the individual against fraud and identity theft. In conclusion, Bitcoin indeed revolutionises modern banking and could be one of the biggest competitors of traditional currencies in the future as more people accept the concept of digital currency.

Topic sentence

Evidence

Concluding sentence



Whenever you are incorporating evidence

- Always acknowledge other people's ideas every time you use them.
- Always include a citation formatted correctly using the referencing style

- We recommend the <u>Monash referencing guide</u> which has guides for Harvard and IEEE
- More information on our <u>Referencing website</u>
- Use the information on the Wattle site



Your turn!

How has bitcoin challenged traditional notions of currency?

Start writing and remember to:

- Summarise correctly
- Paraphrase when needed
- Quote only if really needed
- Use referencing correctly





ACADEMIC SKILLS WRITING CENTRE







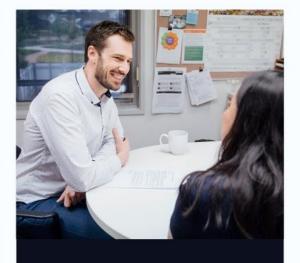
PEER WRITERS

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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