**Transfer of learning to the discipline**

By the end of this session, you should be better prepared to apply the ES1103 module knowledge to your various disciplinary and GE modules.

1. **Transfer**

**Task:** Read this short overview of transfer:

Transfer of learning is defined as occurring when “learning in one context or with one set of materials impacts on performance in another context or with another set of materials” (Perkins & Salomon, 1994, p. 6452).

The aim of ES1103 is to help you with the range of writing tasks you are encountering in your core modules as well as your GE modules. For this to happen, you need to transfer/apply knowledge from the ES1103 module (the initial context) to other modules and communication events (new contexts).

Whether transfer occurs depends on many variables. First, the content knowledge in the first learning context has to be ‘generalizable’ to enable the learner to extract knowledge and skills and apply them elsewhere. Also, the learners have to be prepared for transferring knowledge, and this can be done though analysing the new context with the concepts of *near* and *far* transfer.

Near and Far transfer refer to the similarity of tasks across contexts. These concepts are also termed ‘Low road’ transfer which means automatic transfer, and ‘High road’ transfer which means that the learner engages in mindful abstraction of knowledge to apply it to different contexts (Perkins & Salomon, 1994).

Near transfer occurs when the initial context is very similar to the next one. In this case, transfer can occur easily because the learner recognises that the same knowledge can be applied. In some cases, the transfer can occur automatically.

Far transfer, on the other hand, occurs between an initial and a new context which are very different. In this case, you may not notice that knowledge from the initial context is relevant and can be applied. Far transfer is more difficult to achieve and needs to be planned for. Throughout ES1103, we have tried to share knowledge about language and writing skills which you can apply to wide range of contexts if you can recognize the relevance. This is what we are doing today.

1. **Discussing ‘Near’ and ‘Far’ transfer**

**Task**: On the continuum below, write the types of writing tasks that you are completing in your other modules (other contexts) according to whether they are near the ES1103 content/tasks or far.

Near Far

**Task:** Discuss whether the ES1103 module content can be applied to the tasks you have written on the FAR side of the continuum.

**Task 2: Transfer from ES1103**

What, from the ES1103 EAP module, do you think can transfer to your discipline or other modules: refer to specific examples from this semester’s modules (using the course schedule to remind yourself of the content) and draw a list.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ES1103 content | Can be useful in my discipline modules/GEM modules |
| Language choices seen as directly impacted by the context - Genre knowledge |  |
| Reading and note-taking strategies |  |
| Paraphrasing and summarizing  Writing syntheses |  |
| Avoiding plagiarism  Using a citation system such as APA (in-text and end-text) |  |
| Analysing a prompt  Brainstorming  Outlining  Gathering sources |  |
| Writing cohesive texts: thesis and scope/hyperthemes/  thematic progression |  |
| Writing introductions |  |
| Writing complex sentences and expressing clear logical meaning |  |
| Reviewing a peer’s essay |  |
| Writing process (multiple drafting and revisions) |  |
| Expressing dense meanings using complex noun groups-writing academically |  |
| Engaging with a body of literature and expressing stance through endorsing and distancing language (making the sources talk to each other). |  |
| Writing Reference lists manually and with Mendeley |  |
| Analysing disciplinary texts |  |
| Writing critical reflections |  |

**Reminder:**

Prepare the sources you will need for CA5 (Reflection Assignment) which you will complete in class in Week 13 tutorial 2 and submit at the end of the tutorial.

Submit your **CA4** (complete revised problem solutions essay including your revisions of CA2 and CA3, with formatted APA reference list by the end of Week 13).