

EEI2310

Academic Writing for Teachers of English

Academic Characteristics

- Formality
- Objectivity
- Evidence
- Precision
- Hedging
- Analytical writing



Assistant Professor Dr Sasiporn Phongploenpis
Faculty of Education | SSRU





Formality

casual

sentences

contractions

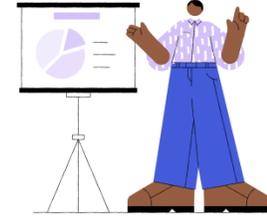
The language you use **shouldn't** be _____ and conversational. You should show that you are able to use subject specific vocabulary appropriately, but this **doesn't** mean you need to use overly complicated words and phrases, or write long, complex _____ to communicate your point. You should also avoid using _____ (for example, **can't**, **won't**) as these are considered to be informal in tone in the context of academic writing.

(Newcastle University, 2026)

To make your writing more formal



Avoid rhetorical questions
the reader cannot answer



Use full words instead of
contractions



Avoid unspecified categories



Avoid colloquial language



Formality

The investigation has been going for four years. How good has it been? At this stage, researchers can't tell, because they still need to check out the data to account for differences in age, gender, socio-economic-status, etc. Once that work is done though, the information will be really first-class.

Source: The University of Melbourne (n.d.)



Improve this passage

The investigation has been **going** for four years. **How good has it been?** At this stage, researchers **can't tell**, because they still need to **check out** the data to account for differences in age, gender, socio-economic-status, etc. Once that work is done **though**, the information will be **really first-class**.

Source: The University of Melbourne, n.d.

The investigation has been **underway** for four years. Researchers cannot yet **determine** the **effectiveness** of the project because it is necessary to first analyse the data to control for age, gender, socio-economic status and **other demographic variables**. Despite this, the information collected is expected to be **highly valuable** for future studies.

Formality: Precise Word Choice



Misused Words

1. The journal **excepted** your article for publication.
2. The journal **accepted** your article for publication.

Except means to exclude something, whereas accept is the consent to receive something.

Enago Academy (2021)

Formality: Precise Word Choice



Awkward Word Choices

1. **Child students' consciousness** for marine education still remains an open research problem for creating a suitable teaching plan.
2. **Consciousness among young students** for...

Enago Academy (2021)

Formality: Standard Spelling



1. He left imediately.
2. The annimals are agresive.
3. The students went ot there class.
4. She has brown hare.
5. Wear is the library?
6. The library is a quite place to work.
7. A pesonnel computer is useful.
8. Shanghai is bigger then London..
9. I finished at least.

Source: <https://www.uefap.org/grammar-spelling/>

Formality: A Serious Tone



Avoid:

- slang
- cliches
- second person (you)
- first person (I)

Colloquial Expression	Formal Equivalent	Meaning
Wanna	Want to	Want to
Gonna	Going to	Going to
Kinda	Kind of	Kind of
Gotta	Got to	Have to
Lemme	Let me	Let me
Cuz	Because	Because
Y'all	You all	You all
Ain't	Am not / Is not / Are not	Am not / Is not / Are not
Dunno	Don't know	Don't know
Outta	Out of	Out of

Colloquialism: Definition and Examples

Colloquialism: Definition and Examples (PDF)

Colloquialism, also known as everyday language, plays an important role in understanding and connecting with native English speakers

 Learn English Team / Jun 23, 2023

Review

Formality

Writing in a formal way helps your writing to sound more **credible and authoritative**.



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

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- **Formal**

formal words

full form

passive form

complex structure

- **Informal**

phrasal verb: find out

short form (contractions)

short & simple sentences

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zv7fqp3/articles/z498dp3>



Bibliography



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