




Graduate Research Advanced Skills Program (GRASP)

Research Writing Series

Bring your own (BYO) Writing Challenge

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I acknowledge Whadjuk Nyungar as the Custodians of the land on which I live and work. This Country was never ceded, it always was, and always will be Aboriginal land.

I pay my respects to Whadjuk Nyungar Elders past and present. I value their ancestral and continuing caring for Country practices and thank them for looking after this Country for so long.

I appreciate Indigenous ways of communication which are inclusive and respectful, and I recognise that this Country has been a place of teaching, research and learning for tens of thousands of years.

Theme 1: English language

- *English is not my first language.*
- *Usage of correct words, phrases, and grammar.*

Theme 1: English language – solutions

- ✓ Practise English – immerse yourself
 - ✓ Four dimensions of language
 - ✓ input = output

Theme 2: The flow of ideas

- *I have collected literature material in chunks so it is important to create a link between my ideas and literature review.*
- *It is challenging to express my ideas logically and reasonably. Giving further details and elaborating on the sentences is also challenging.*
- *The feedback I have received says that the style of my writing needs to be improved.*

Theme 2 :The flow of ideas – solutions

- ✓ Mind mapping
- ✓ Reverse-outlining
- ✓ Write within rigid structure

Theme 3: Getting things done

- *Staying focussed*
- *I am working on a project, which itself is a challenge*
- *I need a couple of hours to get warmed up to write anything (I am ashamed to say this but I have to admit to get some help with it). It's like my brain has to shift gears and tap into a specific spot to get any writing done.*
- *I am too critical of every word I write which has brought down the pace of my writing significantly.*

Theme 3: Getting things done – solutions

- ✓ Forward planning – detailed next step – keeps you going
- ✓ To - do list with bigger and smaller tasks
- ✓ Project management
- ✓ Focus – pomodoro technique
- ✓ Too critical – perfectionism? Good enough!!
- ✓ Mental health – seek help.

Theme 4: Scholarly writing

- *Academic writing skills*
- *The feedback I receive is that my writing is not concise.*
- *I need to work on scientific writing.*
- *It's hard to make scholarly writing sound simple but complex at the same time. It means that I sometimes find it hard to organise paragraphs with complex words to get a point across.*

Theme 4: Scholarly writing – solutions

- ✓ Scholarly writing in the English language: get to the point!
- ✓ Myth that scholarly writing needs to be complicated:
 - ✓ Language and grammar can be simple
 - ✓ Concepts and arguments are complex

Theme 5: Editing your writing

- *I do not have specific pointers while I edit my text which leads me to perform multiple iterations of editing without much improvement.*
- *Grammatical errors.*
- *I use a grammar program, but there are still errors.*
- *I have errors in grammar and sentence structure.*
- *I have always comments in my paper and draft regarding minor English language errors.*

Theme 5: Editing your writing – solutions

- ✓ Macro-intermediate-micro level editing
- ✓ Read out loud, change the font and font size.

Questions

GRASP webpage

<https://researchtoolkit.library.curtin.edu.au/grasp/about-grasp/>

Help

LibraryResearchSupport@curtin.edu.au

Feedback (Stop – Start – Continue)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1t7roPInys2xK_0zY69ivY9s09ZNs2iY_byLVdCSKD7M/edit?usp=sharing