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# CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCING SELF-STUDY IN ACADEMIC WRITING

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**Abstract:** In fast changing world, learners must learn all the skills of language. In this case, writing is also essential for everyone for future career development. This article examines not only the difficulties of improving writing skill with the help of self-study, but also gives solutions for overcoming such a complicated task. Furthermore, the document underscores the importance of several changes enacted in the education system. The study illustrates useful recommendations for enhancing academic writing.

**Key words**: Self-study, difficulty, enhance, writing skills, challenges, develop, academic writing, active reading, essential, recommendation, critical thinking, brainstorming, coherence, planning.

Annotatsiya: Tez o'zgaruvchan dunyoda o'quvchilar tilning barcha ko'nikmalarini o'rganishlari kerak. Bunday holda, yozish har bir kishi uchun kelajakdagi martaba rivojlanishi uchun zarurdir. Ushbu maqola nafaqat o'z-o'zini o'rganish yordamida yozish mahoratini oshirishning qiyinchiliklarini ko'rib chiqadi, balki bunday murakkab vazifani engish uchun echimlarni ham beradi. Bundan tashqari, mazkur hujjatda ta'lim tizimiga kiritilgan qator o'zgarishlar muhimligi ta'kidlangan. Tadqiqot akademik yozishni yaxshilash uchun foydali tavsiyalarni ko'rsatadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** O'z-o'zini o'rganish, qiyinchilik, takomillashtirish, yozish ko'nikmalari, qiyinchiliklar, rivojlantirish, akademik yozish, faol o'qish, muhim, tavsiya, tanqidiy fikrlash, aqliy hujum, izchillik, rejalashtirish.

Аннотация: В быстро меняющемся мире учащиеся должны изучать все навыки языка. В этом случае письмо также необходимо каждому для будущего развития карьеры. В этой статье рассматриваются не только трудности улучшения навыков письма с помощью самостоятельного обучения, но и предлагаются решения для преодоления такой сложной задачи. Кроме того, в документе подчеркивается важность нескольких изменений, принятых в системе образования. Исследование иллюстрирует полезные рекомендации по улучшению академического письма.

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**Ключевые слова:** Самостоятельное обучение, сложность, улучшение, навыки письма, проблемы, развитие, академическое письмо, активное чтение, существенно, рекомендация, критическое мышление, мозговой штурм, последовательность, планирование.

Writing is one of the most important skills for all the students around the world. Since it is the best way for expressing ideas coherently. Moreover, with the help of writing everyone may organize their thoughts and plan in a better way which means in a detailed form. Nowadays, all the universities opting for self-study, in order to enhance students' skill whenever they want to work on the skill which is falling behind while making a progress. In this case, for improvement of writing skills the best way is self-study. Everyone knows about self-study, what does this term mean, here one more time is better to mention it.

Meaning of self-study in English a way of learning about a subject that involves studying alone at home, rather than in a classroom with a teacher<sup>1</sup>. The definition itself describes writing as a flexible way of studying. Since it has a variety of advantages for students. However, it must be mentioning information that it has some challenges as well. In retrospect, during the Covid-19, around the world students have to stay at home like other people, and study distantly and study on themselves in order to make a progress. However, several school-related difficulties have arisen since Covid-19. Due to the current conditions, lecturers have a problematic dilemma when moving to online teaching techniques. This unanticipated shift in teaching-learning methodology not only alters the English Language Teaching (ELT) situation but also necessitates lecturers teaching while often monitoring students' progress. In response to the continuing worldwide epidemic, new normal norms have been formed in various areas, including education, via the reopening of school activities<sup>2</sup>.

Writing is one of the most effective types of speech activity that provides the expression of thought in a written form. Academic writing is a fundamental skill which is necessary for success in higher education and scholarly work. For many students and researchers, self-study becomes an essential path to mastering academic writing, particularly when formal instruction is limited or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Cambridge dictionary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rum, E. P., Baso, F. A., & Musoyeva, A. (2025). Hybrid Learning Model in Post-Pandemic Education: Lecturers Attitude in Indonesian and Uzbekistan Higher Education. *Aptisi Transactions on Technopreneurship (ATT)*, 7(1), 169-179.

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inaccessible. However, engaging in self-study for academic writing presents several significant challenges that learners must overcome to achieve proficiency.

When it comes to academic writing, students often struggle with a variety of challenges related to structure, clarity, critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, citation, grammar and proofreading. Some common issues related to academic writing include language ability, especially for non-native English speakers, which can impact their writing and overall performance<sup>3</sup>. One key element to successful writing is the thesis statement; this statement should be clear and concise and provide a roadmap for the rest of the essay. One of the primary challenges is the lack of clear guidance. Unlike traditional classroom settings where instructors provide structured lessons, models, and feedback, self-study learners must navigate the complexities of academic writing largely on their own. This often results in confusion about essential elements such as developing a strong thesis, maintaining coherence and cohesion, and adhering to formal academic conventions.

Another important issue is writing skills; many students experience problems with argument structuring and coherence maintenance, leading to papers that lack clarity and logical flow<sup>4</sup>. Without a clear roadmap, students may struggle to identify what good academic writing looks like and how to emulate it in their own work. Solution to this is choosing reliable materials, using different video lessons in which all the aspects of writing have been described clearly. Self-study also demands high levels of motivation, discipline, and persistence. Academic writing can be a slow and labor-intensive process, often requiring multiple revisions before achieving clarity and polish. Without the external pressure of deadlines or assessments, learners may lose focus or become discouraged by perceived lack of progress. The solitary nature of self-study exacerbates this issue, making it easier to procrastinate or abandon the effort altogether.

Another significant challenge is the limited access to feedback. In traditional classroom, teachers provide feedback quickly, however in self-study there is no such kind of opportunity. Research-informed reflection helps teachers to question their approaches, examine student results, and make changes depending on facts. When a teacher observes decreased student participation, for instance, she may structure the problem as a research topic, gather observational data, and try many approaches. This technique not only sharpens analytical abilities but also encourages an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> F. Christie, Classroom Discourse Analysis: A Functional Perspective. Continuum,, Continuum, 2005...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U. Knoch, "Diagnostic Feedback in Academic Writing,," Language Testing, 2009., pp. pp. 415-436,.

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attitude of inquiry and flexibility, qualities of good professional performance<sup>5</sup>. It has been considered as critical challenges of self-studying in writing is the lack of immediate feedback. In traditional classroom environments, instructors provide regular, structured feedback that highlights both strengths and weaknesses in a student's writing. For this reason, insufficient feedback and limited time for revision are problems that affect students' ability to produce wellpolished academic writing<sup>6</sup>. Through corrections, suggestions, and discussions, learners gain insights into their mistakes and how to fix them. In contrast, self-study learners must assess their own writing, often without sufficient expertise to identify subtle but important errors. Without external evaluation, mistakes in grammar, structure, style, or argument development can go unnoticed and become ingrained over time. Feedback is crucial for writing development because it helps learners recognize their strengths and weaknesses. Students note in relation to "More frequent feedback would be helpful", in that this observation indicates that students might derive more benefit if they were given feedback on their writing more frequently. This means that frequent and regular feedback is important for students to develop their writing skills, so they also understand what progress they are making in their subject area<sup>7</sup>. In a self-study environment, students often lack knowledgeable peers, tutors, or mentors to critique their work and offer constructive suggestions. As a result, they may continue making the same errors without realizing it, slowing their improvement. In that case, it is the only way purchasing online lessons, or contacting with the teacher distantly.

There is one more obstacle for learners is lack of idea in academic writing, one effective solution is to overcome creative block by brainstorming. Brainstorming allows writers to generate ideas and connections between them. The most effective solution would be improving communication skills by seeking feedback from peers or professors, which can help identify areas where more information is needed. Notetaking is also an important aspect of overcoming a lack of ideas, as it helps writers capture their thoughts and organize information. One more solution is outlining can

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> bin Muhamad Adnan, M. H., & Botirovna, M. A. (2025). CREATING A MODEL FOR IMPROVING THE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS OF TEACHERS THROUGH RESEARCH COMPETENCE. *Multidisciplinary and Multidimensional Journal*, *4*(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> B. Perry, "Zones of Proximal Development and the Development of Academic Writing,," *Journal of Writing Research*, vol. Vol.2, no. No 1, pp. pp.35-49, 2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Challenges in mastering academic writing: a case study of English language learners at the university for business and technology **Article** *in* Edelweiss Applied Science and Technology · September 2024 DOI: 10.55214/25768484.v8i6.1707 CITATION 1 READS 186 **2 authors**, including: Alma V. Lama University for Business and Technology **23** PUBLICATIONS **37** CITATIONS

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also be helpful in organizing ideas and identifying gaps in knowledge. By using these solutions, writers can effectively overcome the challenge of a lack of ideas in academic writing.

Selecting reputable resources is equally important. Students should rely on materials produced by credible institutions such as university writing centers, scholarly books on writing, and established educational websites. Consulting such trusted resources ensures that the advice and examples followed align with academic standards.

Developing a structured routine can also support steady progress. Allocating regular, dedicated time for writing practice creates habits that promote discipline and reduce procrastination. Even short daily sessions, if consistent, can lead to significant improvements over time. While self-study is inherently independent, it is important to seek external feedback whenever possible. Learners can share their work with peers, join online writing communities, use writing assistance tools like Grammarly, or even consult writing tutors when available. Receiving feedback helps identify blind spots and areas for improvement that may not be apparent to the writer alone.

Active reading is another vital practice. By carefully analyzing academic articles, essays, and research papers, students can internalize effective writing techniques, learn how arguments are structured, and expand their academic vocabulary. Annotating texts and summarizing arguments are excellent exercises to reinforce these skills. Frequent and deliberate practice is essential to mastering academic writing. Writing summaries, critical analyses, literature reviews, and argumentative essays provides varied experience and helps students apply the skills they are learning. Regular writing also fosters confidence and fluency, making the process feel less daunting over time.

Understanding and practicing academic integrity should be a continuous part of self-study. Learners must familiarize themselves with citation rules, the differences between paraphrasing and quoting, and the importance of original analysis. Using citation management tools like Zotero or EndNote can simplify referencing and reduce the risk of accidental plagiarism.

Finally, leveraging technology wisely can enhance the self-study experience. Tools that check grammar, improve readability, generate outlines, or organize research notes can support the writing process, but learners should use them critically, ensuring that they remain actively engaged in the learning process rather than becoming overly reliant on automation. Self-studying academic writing presents numerous challenges, it also offers an opportunity for self-directed growth and mastery. By setting clear goals, using trustworthy resources, maintaining discipline, seeking

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feedback, practicing actively, and upholding academic integrity, learners can overcome these obstacles and achieve success. Academic writing may be demanding, but with persistence and the right strategies, self-study can lead to significant and lasting improvement in writing competence and scholarly confidence.

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