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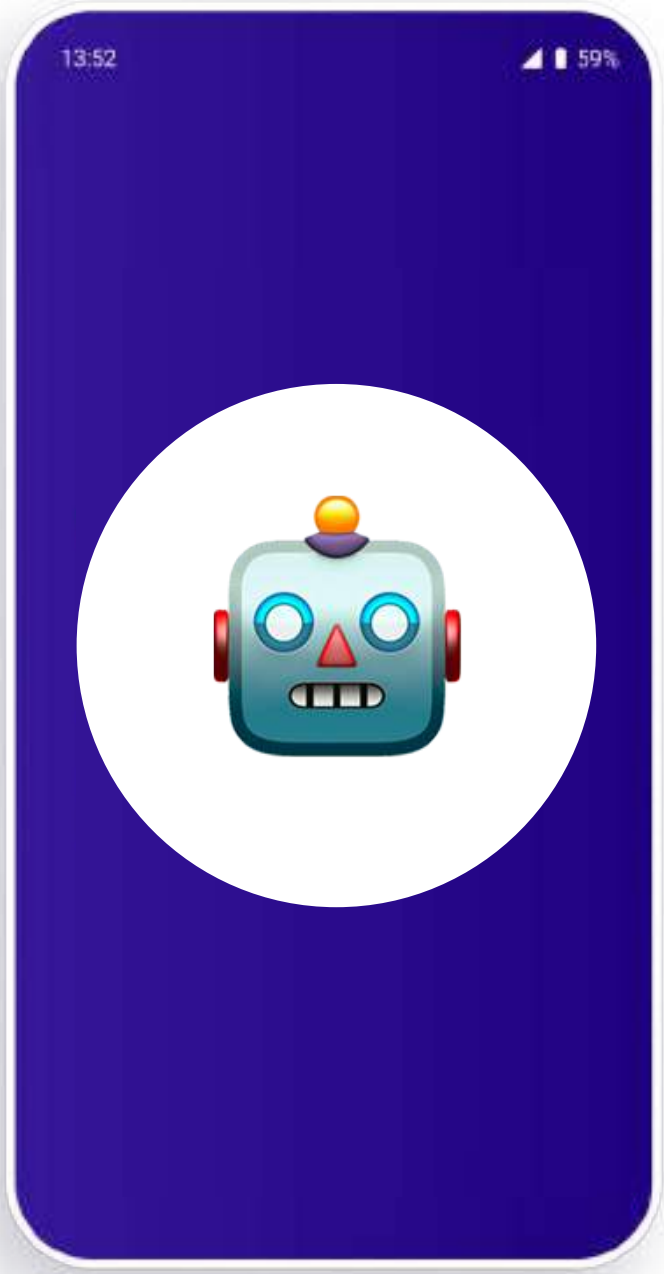
EnglishScore

Advancing Academic English through AI: Strategies for Higher Education



Colm Downes

Thursday 9 May 2024

The 2nd IELA International Hybrid Conference, Batu City

Outline

1. **The Need to Improve Academic English**

2. **The Four Skills**
   - Academic Speaking
   - Academic Writing
   - Academic Reading
   - Academic Listening

3. **Using Generative AI to Enhance Academic English**

4. **Audience Q&A**

1

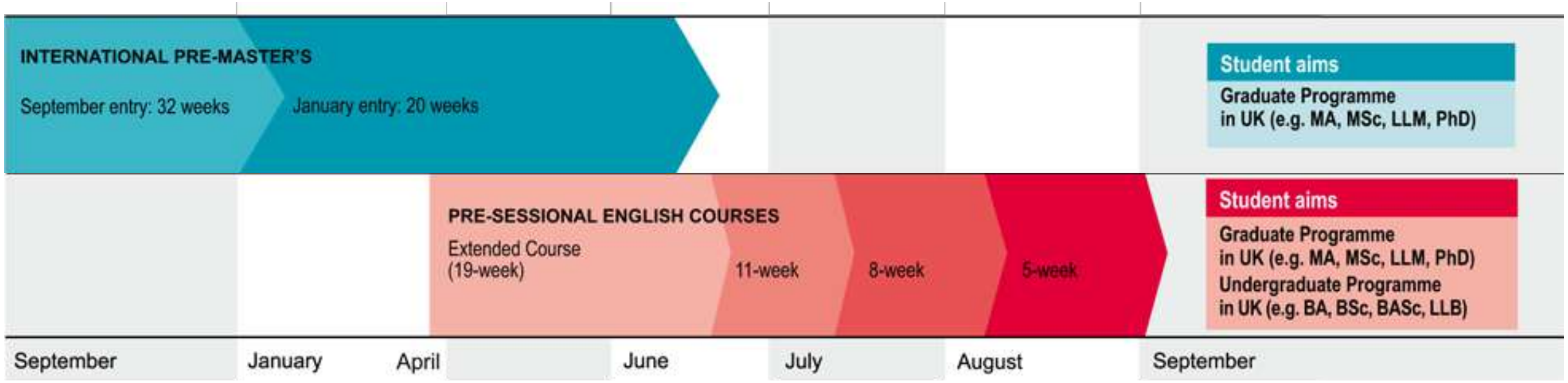
The Need to Improve Academic English

Colm Downes EAP Teaching Fellow @UCL

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

- Undergraduate preparatory certificates
- International Pre-Master's
- Pre sessional English Course
- In Sessional English Course

Before the course



Advancing Academic English through AI: Strategies for Higher Education - Downes, 2024

The Need for Academic English

Apply to University

Apply for a Scholarship

English Test

University Degree Course

Pre-Sessional Academic English
Before the course

In-Sessional Academic English
During the course

Academic English vs. General English

Academic English:

- Structured, formal, and objective
- Employs advanced vocabulary and complex syntax
- Used in scholarly writing and presentations
- Cites sources and evidences arguments
- Adheres to specific disciplinary conventions

General English:

- Informal, subjective, and varied in structure
- Includes everyday vocabulary and simpler sentence constructions
- Used in casual conversation and informal writing
- More personal and less concerned with formalities
- Flexible, adapting to social and cultural contexts

Benefits of Stronger EAP Skills for Students

Home Students	Overseas Postgrads	Short Course Attendees
1. Expand access to **global academic materials** and research papers primarily published in English.	1. **Gaining proficiency to meet the language requirements** for admissions, including standardised English proficiency tests.	1. **Ensuring a quick adjustment** to the intensive nature of short courses which often have a steep learning curve.
2. Enhancing the ability to **participate in international online courses** and webinars, broadening their educational opportunities.	2. Facilitating **smoother integration** into the academic and social environment of the host country.	2. **Improving networking** with international faculty and peers, which can lead to future academic opportunities.
3. Improving the **potential for academic discussion** and collaboration with international peers on research projects.	3. **Building confidence for participating** in class discussions, presentations, and academic networking.	3. Enhancing the experience of **cultural immersion**, making it more enriching and educational.
4. Improved English proficiency associated with access to **higher salaries and prestigious roles**.	4. Enhancing the potential to excel during the degree course and **achieve stronger academic results**.	4. Facilitating the **acquisition of specialised terminology and jargon** related to their field of study.

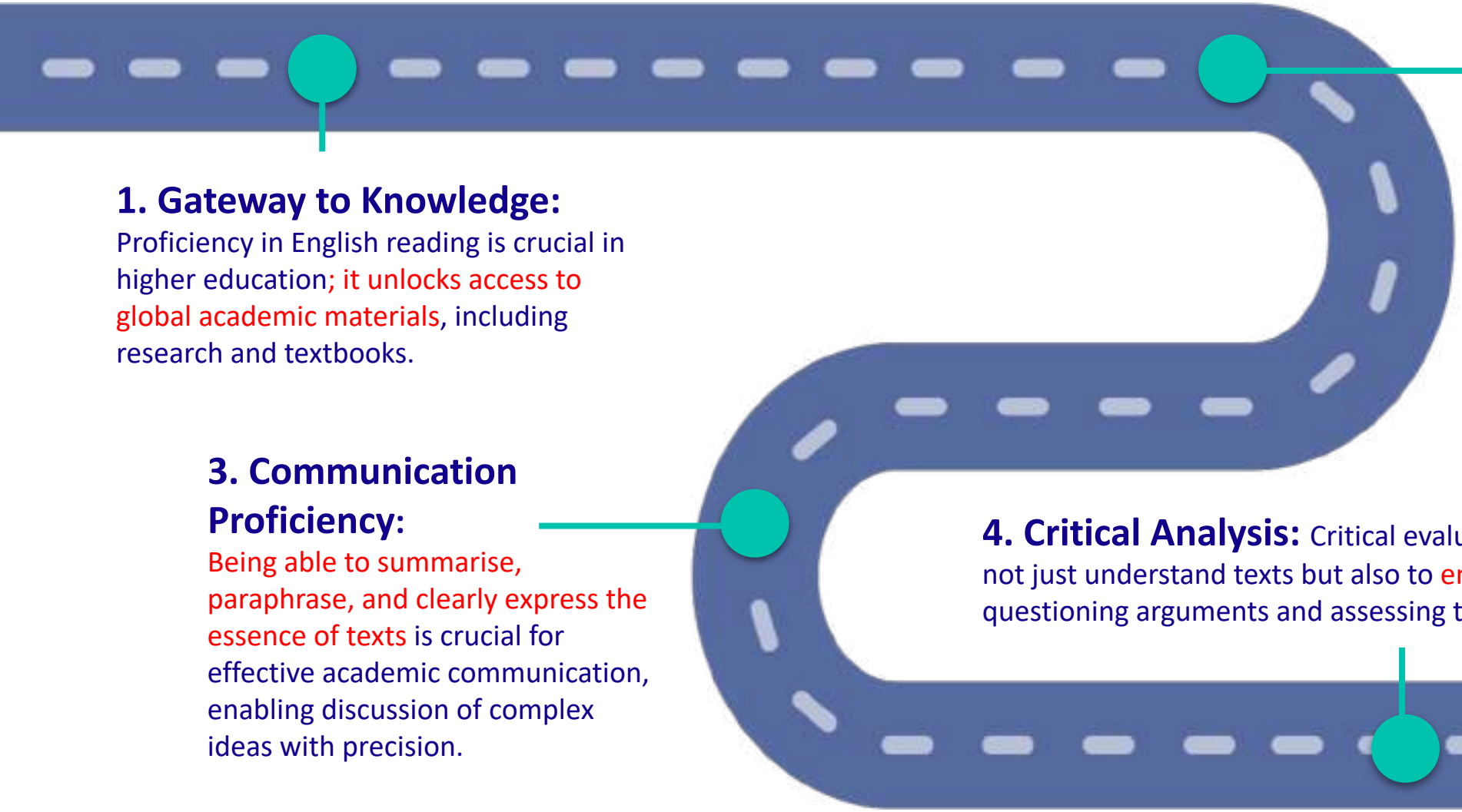
Benefits of Stronger EAP Skills for Lecturers

Home Lecturers	Home EMI Lecturers	Overseas Lecturers
1. Improved **critical thinking and analytical skills** from studying texts in a second language.	1. Enhancing the ability to **deliver content effectively** in English, ensuring that students are engaged and able to understand the material.	1. Developing linguistic skills for **diverse teaching methods and academic cultures**, engaging with advanced research for growth.
2. Enhanced **cross-cultural communication skills** for effective operation in a globalised world.	2. **Expanding professional development opportunities**, such as attending and presenting at international conferences.	2. Boosting potential for international research collaborations and readiness for **academic publishing** and grant writing.
3. Enables the development of a curriculum that meets **international standard**s, attracting more students and partnerships.	3. Enables the development of a curriculum that meets **international standard**s, attracting more students and partnerships.	3. Enhancing **research capabilities** and access to extensive academic literature, with opportunities for journal publication**.**
4. Increasing the possibility of **publishing in English-language academic journals**, which has a wider readership and impact factor.	4. Strengthens the **capacity to mentor students** who are writing theses or dissertations in English.	4. Expanding professional development via international conferences and workshops, fostering a **global academic network**.

2

The Four Skills

The Importance of Academic Reading



1. Gateway to Knowledge:

Proficiency in English reading is crucial in higher education; it unlocks access to global academic materials, including research and textbooks.

2. Strategic Reading:

Developing targeted reading abilities is essential for academic success; it involves learning to efficiently extract important information, comprehend detailed content, and interpret underlying meanings.

3. Communication Proficiency:

Being able to summarise, paraphrase, and clearly express the essence of texts is crucial for effective academic communication, enabling discussion of complex ideas with precision.

4. Critical Analysis:

Critical evaluation skills empower readers to not just understand texts but also to engage with them analytically, questioning arguments and assessing the validity of research findings.

Recommendations for improving your academic reading skills

Daily Reading Habit: Enjoy reading for fun for 30 minutes every day. Strengthen your reading muscle – like a runner training for a race.

Academic Focus: While general reading is good, focusing on academic texts is more beneficial. Journal articles are often short.

Seminal Works: Identify the most important and influential short academic papers in your field. The key seminal texts.

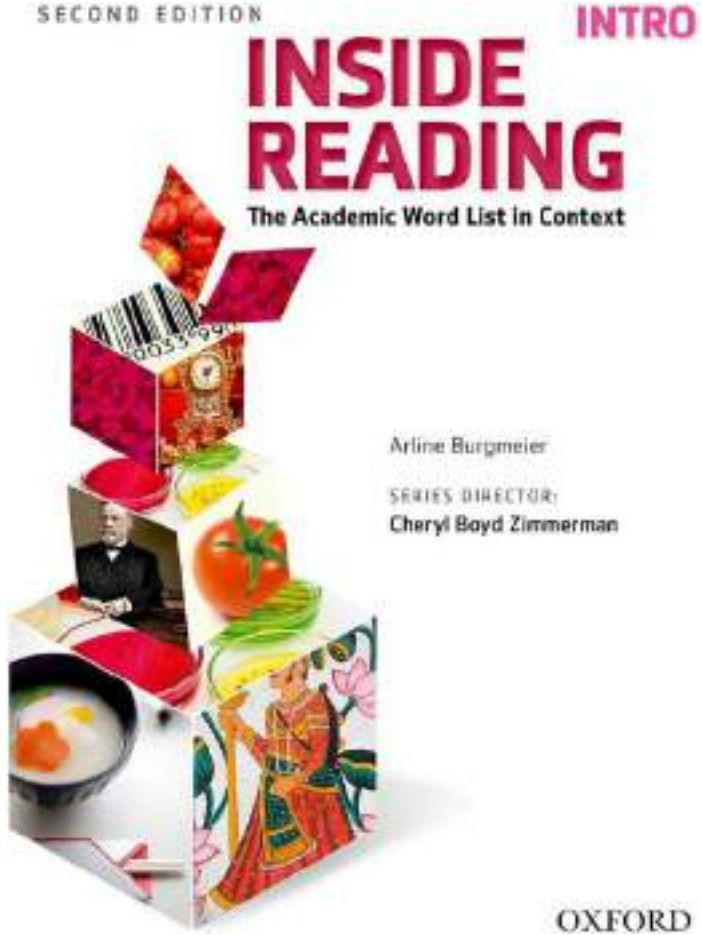
Writing Development: Consistent academic reading is the best way to build your vocabulary and enhancing your academic writing skills.

Academic Reading:
Resources

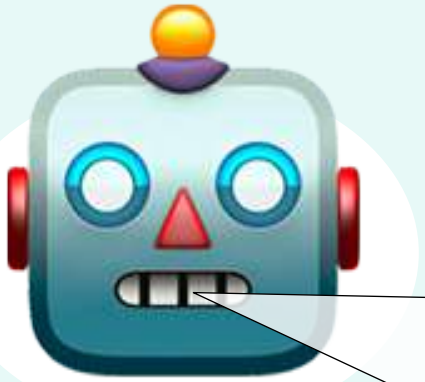
Academic Reading:
Resources

Delegation of the European Union to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam

Academic Reading:
Resources



How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic reading skills



Interactive Summarisation and Clarification:

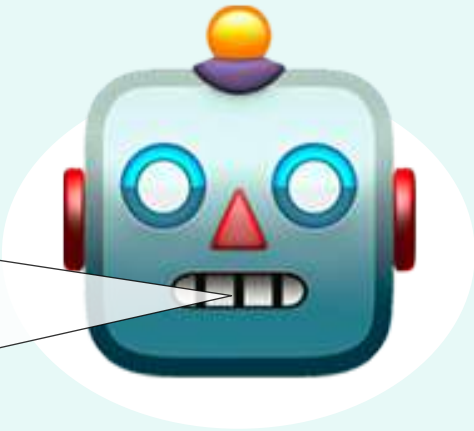
Summarisation: After reading an academic article or paper, you can use ChatGPT to create a summary of the key points. This not only helps reinforce what you've read but also ensures you've understood the main ideas. You can compare your understanding with the summary generated by ChatGPT to identify any gaps in your comprehension.

Clarification: Whenever you encounter complex passages or unfamiliar terminology, you can ask ChatGPT to rephrase the content or explain the terms in simpler language. This can help demystify jargon-laden texts and make dense academic material more approachable.

Discussion and Q&A Sessions:

Engage in Dialogue: Pose questions about the reading material to ChatGPT. Engaging in a back-and-forth dialogue can simulate a tutorial session where you can discuss themes, arguments, and implications of the study. This practice can sharpen your critical thinking and enhance your engagement with the text.

Quiz Creation: Use generative AI to create quizzes on the material you've read. This self-testing method is a proven study technique that can improve retention and understanding of academic content.



The Importance of Academic Listening

1. Foundations of Listening: Mastering academic listening is fundamental for students, facilitating comprehension of lectures and seminars. It enhances the ability to follow complex arguments and recognise nuanced tones in academic discourse.

2. Engaged Listening:
Cultivating active listening skills is key; it means not only hearing but also analysing spoken content, asking critical questions, and engaging with the material in a thoughtful manner.

3. Listening for Details:
Precise listening leads to a deeper understanding of subject matter, enabling students to pick up on subtle details and specific academic terminology used in oral presentations.

4. Interactive Communication: Effective academic listening involves interacting with the content, which includes note-taking, summarising spoken words, and participating in discussions with clarity and confidence.

Recommendations for improving your academic listening skills

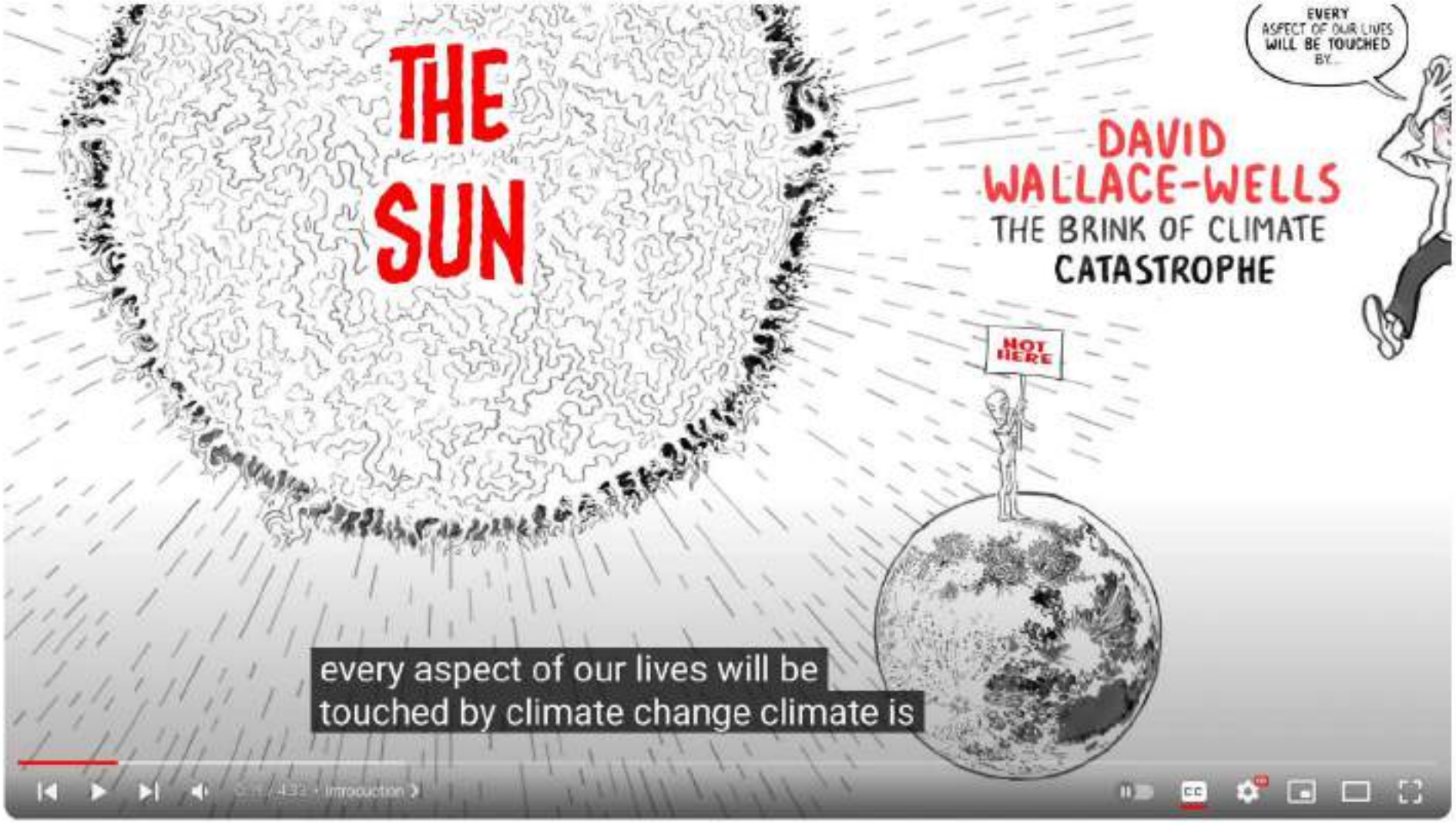
Active Listening: Immerse yourself in academic lectures by paraphrasing critical points in your own words, which aids in better understanding and memory.

Study Note-Taking Techniques: Explore and practice various methods like the Cornell system or mind-mapping to effectively record important information during lectures and talks.

Diverse Exposure: Regularly listen to academic talks, debates, and discussions across different platforms such as TED Talks, academic podcasts, or university websites to get used to varied accents and terminology.

Listening with Text: When available, use transcripts or subtitles while listening to lectures to improve comprehension and get familiar with the academic language used in different contexts.

Academic Listening:
RSA Animates



Academic Listening:
TED Talks

Election 101: Do you know who you're voting for | Andhyta "Afu" Firselly Utami | TEDxJakarta

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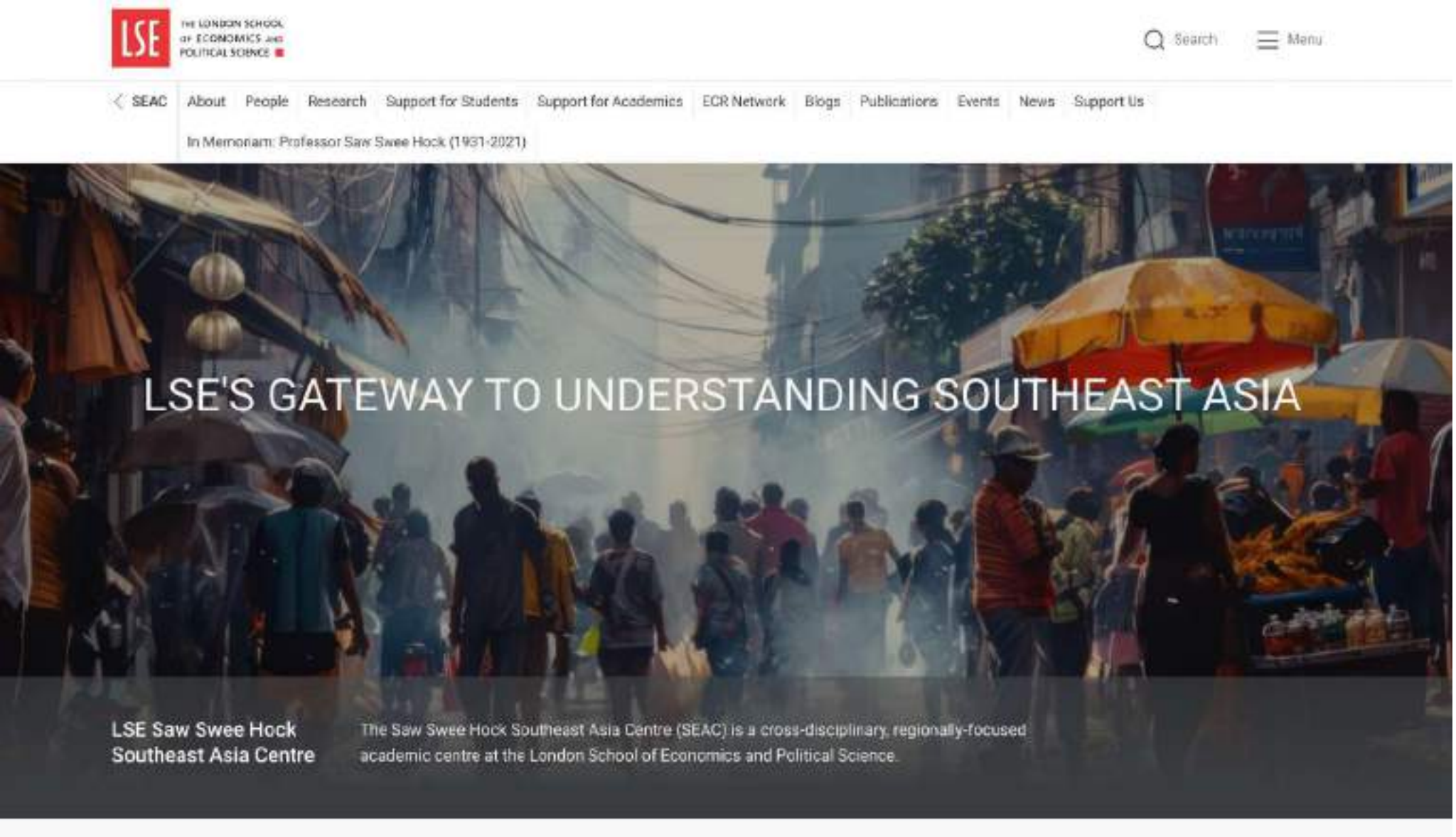
Academic Listening:
LSE Saw Swee Hock Southeast Asia Centre



Academic Listening:
LSE Saw Swee Hock Southeast Asia Centre

LSE Southeast Asia
@LSESEAC

Happening now at LSE!

@benjaminbland @sofiesyarief and Sarah Shair-Rosenfield on the Indonesian recent elections.

#LSESEAC

1:16 AM · Feb 22, 2024 · 1,780 Views

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Academic Listening:
LSE Saw Swee Hock Southeast Asia Centre

Public Lectures and Events

Indonesia: Global Reach, Regional Role

31 Mar 2009 | 52 Minutes

Speaker: President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

Published on: 31 Mar 2009

General TNI (Ret) Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was born in Pacitan on 9 September 1949. Having graduated from the Military Academy in 1973, his military career and rank rose until he became a four-star general in 2000. In 1991, he received his Master of Arts in Management from Webster University, the United States. He earned a Doctorate Degree in Agricultural Economics from Bogor Institute of Agriculture in 2004.

For more information

- Event posting
- YouTube: Indonesia: Global Reach, Regional Role

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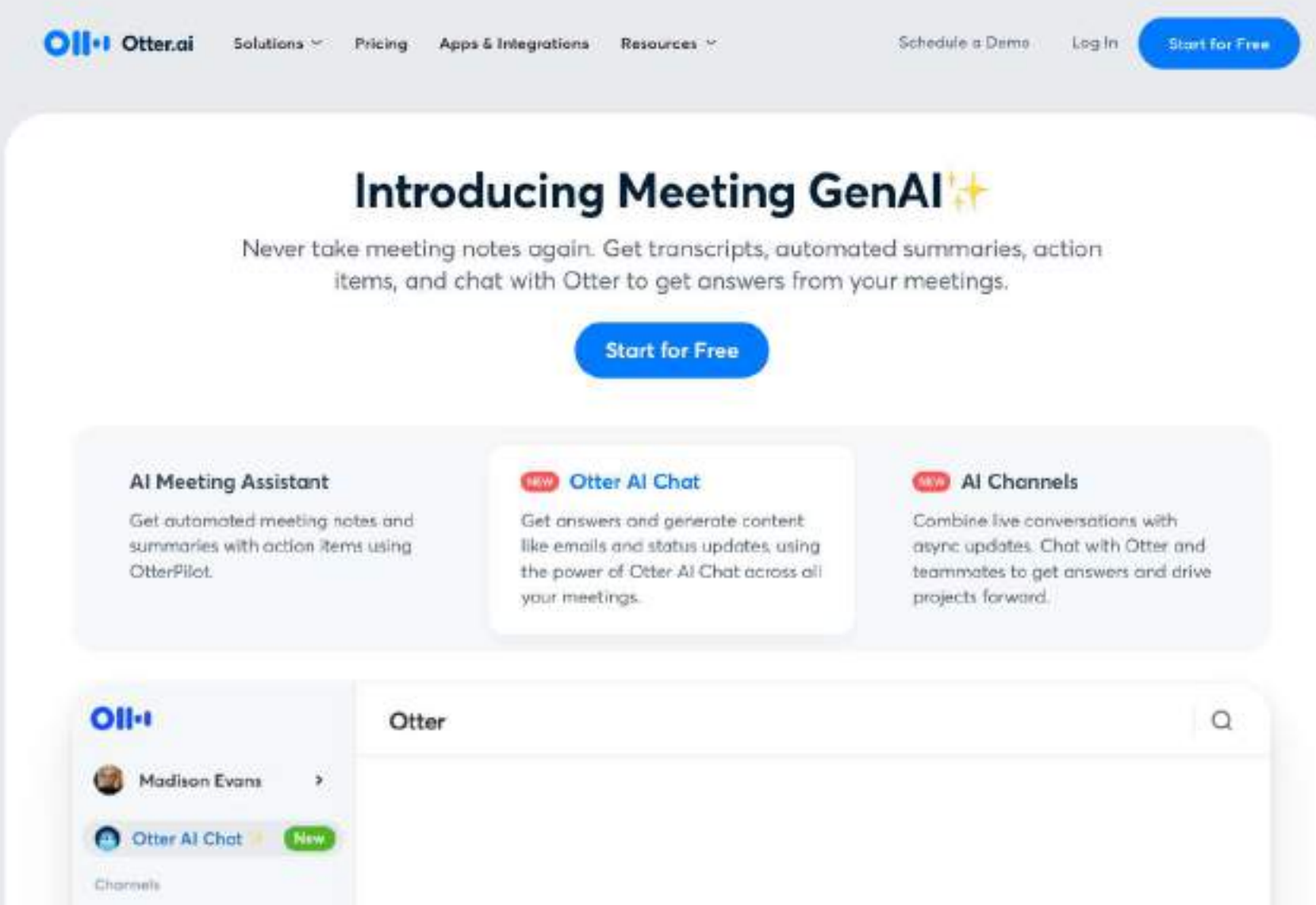
Skills > Listening

Listening

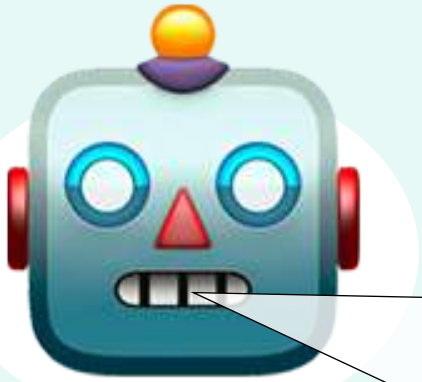
- ✔ Listening
  - A1 listening
  - A2 listening
  - B1 listening
  - B2 listening
  - C1 listening
- ✔ Reading
- ✔ Writing
- ✔ Speaking

Online English courses

How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic listening skills



How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic listening skills



Simulated Lecture Interaction:

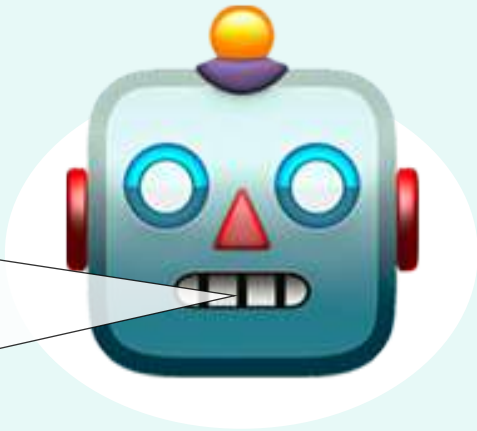
Transcript-Based Listening Practice: Instead of listening to audio, use transcripts of lectures generated by ChatGPT as a reading exercise. Pretend these transcripts are spoken words and actively read them, simulating a listening exercise. This helps you practice academic listening skills by visualising how spoken content is structured.

Self-Generated Summaries: After 'listening' (or reading), write a summary of the key points and use ChatGPT to compare your summary against the original transcript. This method reinforces the material and tests your understanding and recall, similar to confirming comprehension in a listening exercise.

Imagined Dialogue and Discussion:

Simulated Q&A: Generate questions about the content of a 'lecture' (text) you've read and use ChatGPT to answer them. This simulates the experience of asking questions in a lecture and listening to responses, training your ability to form questions based on spoken content and to understand the responses.

Critical Thinking Enhancement: Engage in a text-based dialogue with ChatGPT on the topics of the 'lecture.' Argue a point or discuss implications to practice processing information as if it were obtained through listening.



The Importance of Academic Writing

1. Art of Writing: Excellence in academic writing is a cornerstone of scholarly work. It allows for the clear presentation of ideas, structured arguments, and the dissemination of research findings

2. Structured Approach: Organised writing is critical, requiring a coherent structure that guides the reader through the argument with clear introductions, logical development of ideas, and strong conclusions.

3. Precision and Clarity: Writing with precision and clarity is essential in academia. It involves using the right vocabulary, maintaining focus on the topic, and avoiding ambiguity to convey complex concepts effectively.

Evidence-based Argumentation: Academic writing thrives on substantiated arguments. Presenting evidence, referencing sources accurately, and constructing arguments that withstand scrutiny are fundamental practices.

Recommendations for improving your academic writing skills

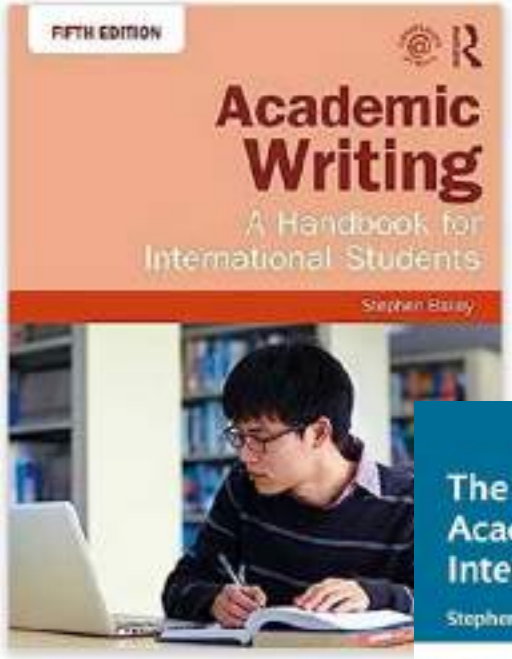
Dedicated Writing Practice:
Regularly practice writing in a clear, concise, and structured way. Focus on clearly expressing your thoughts in an academic style, with a strong emphasis on logical arguments.

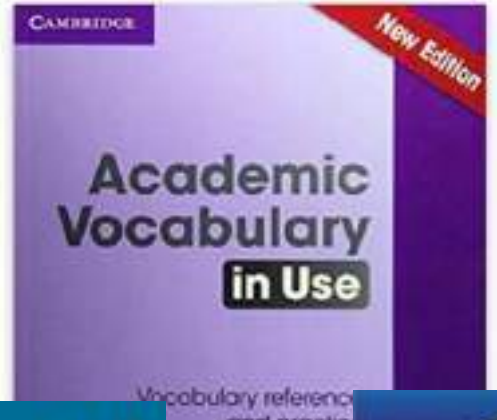
Develop a critical voice: Practise writing with clarity and structure, and succinctly present your subject knowledge. Then, progress to integrating your critical insights, which will bolster your arguments and elevate your academic work

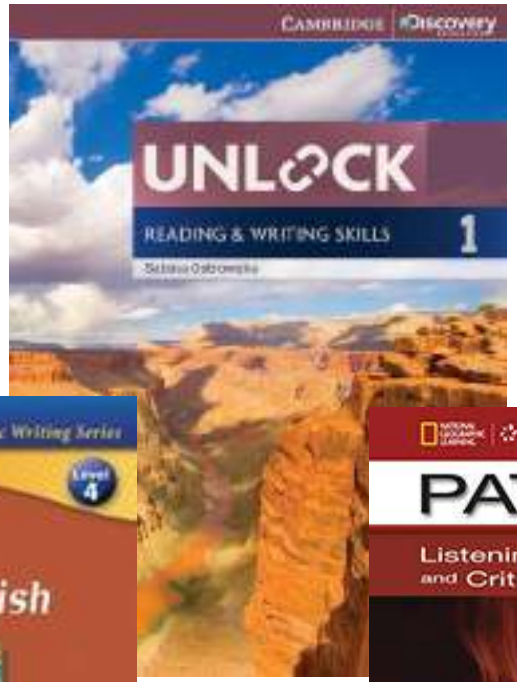
Collaborative Feedback: Actively seek out feedback from your peers. The constructive criticism you receive is essential for identifying your writing's strong points and potential improvements in style, organisation, and reasoning.

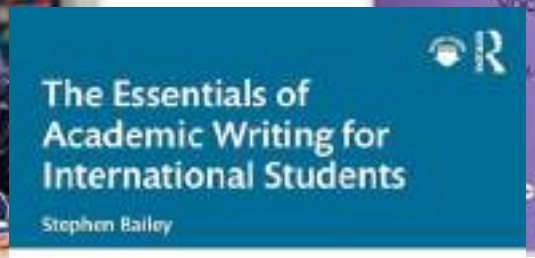
Continuous Draft Refinement:
Develop the habit of revising your drafts multiple times. Focus on enhancing clarity, coherence, and conciseness while ensuring that your writing adheres to the appropriate scholarly conventions and citation standards.

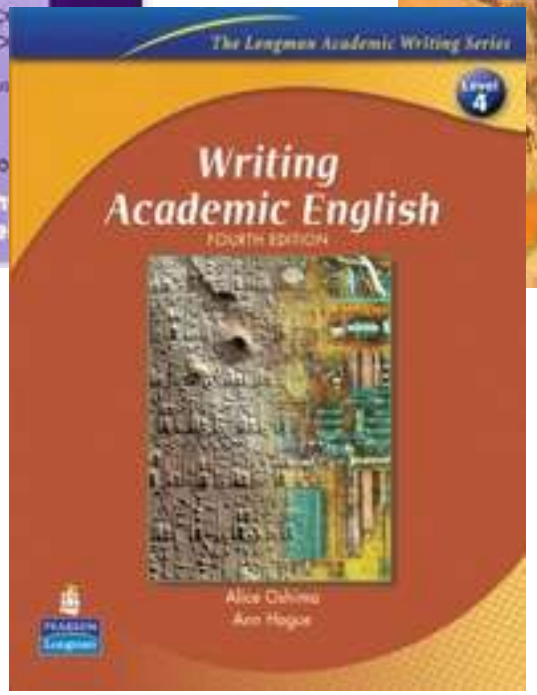
Academic Listening:
Resources

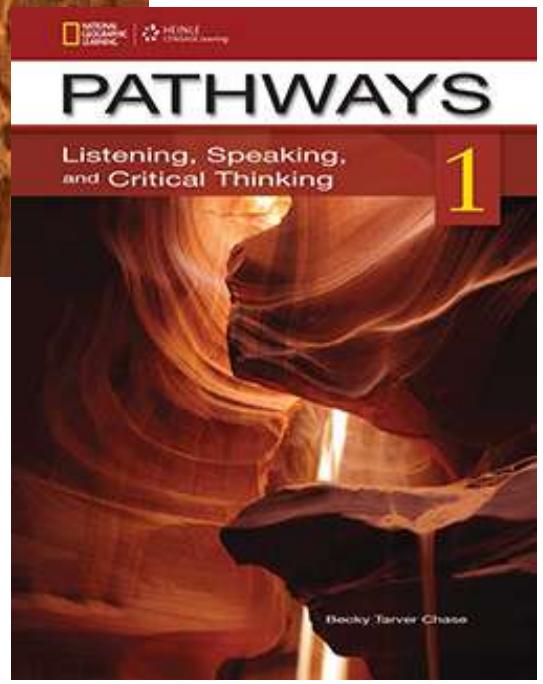


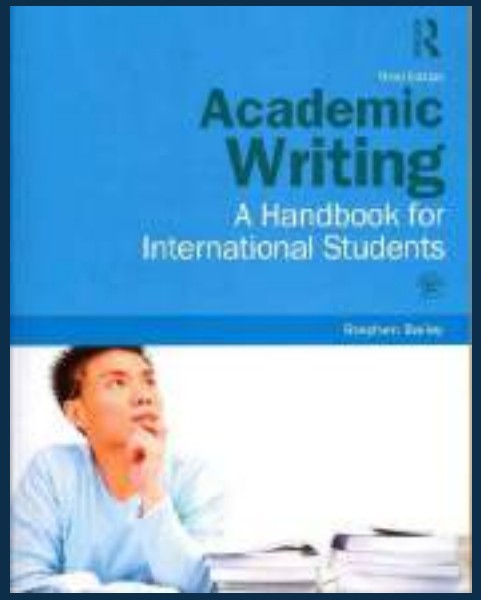












Academic Writing

A Handbook for International Students

Third Edition – Stephen Bailey

Home
Answers
Further Exercises
Extra Topics
Plagiarism Quiz
Glossary
Examination Copy
Education Arena

Answers

Answers Part 1

All Answers Part 1
Academic Writing Quiz
1.1 Background to Writing
1.2A Reading Finding Suitable Sources
1.2B Reading Developing Critical Approaches
1.3 Avoiding Plagiarism
1.4 From Understanding Titles to Planning
1.5 Finding Key Points and Note Making
1.6 Paraphrasing
1.7 Summarising
1.8 References and Quotations
1.9 Combining Sources
1.10 Organising Paragraphs
1.11 Introductions and Conclusions
1.12 Rewriting and Proofreading

Academic Listening:
Resources

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Academic English Online

Academic writing | Academic Reading | Academic speaking | Grammar | Forums | Contacts

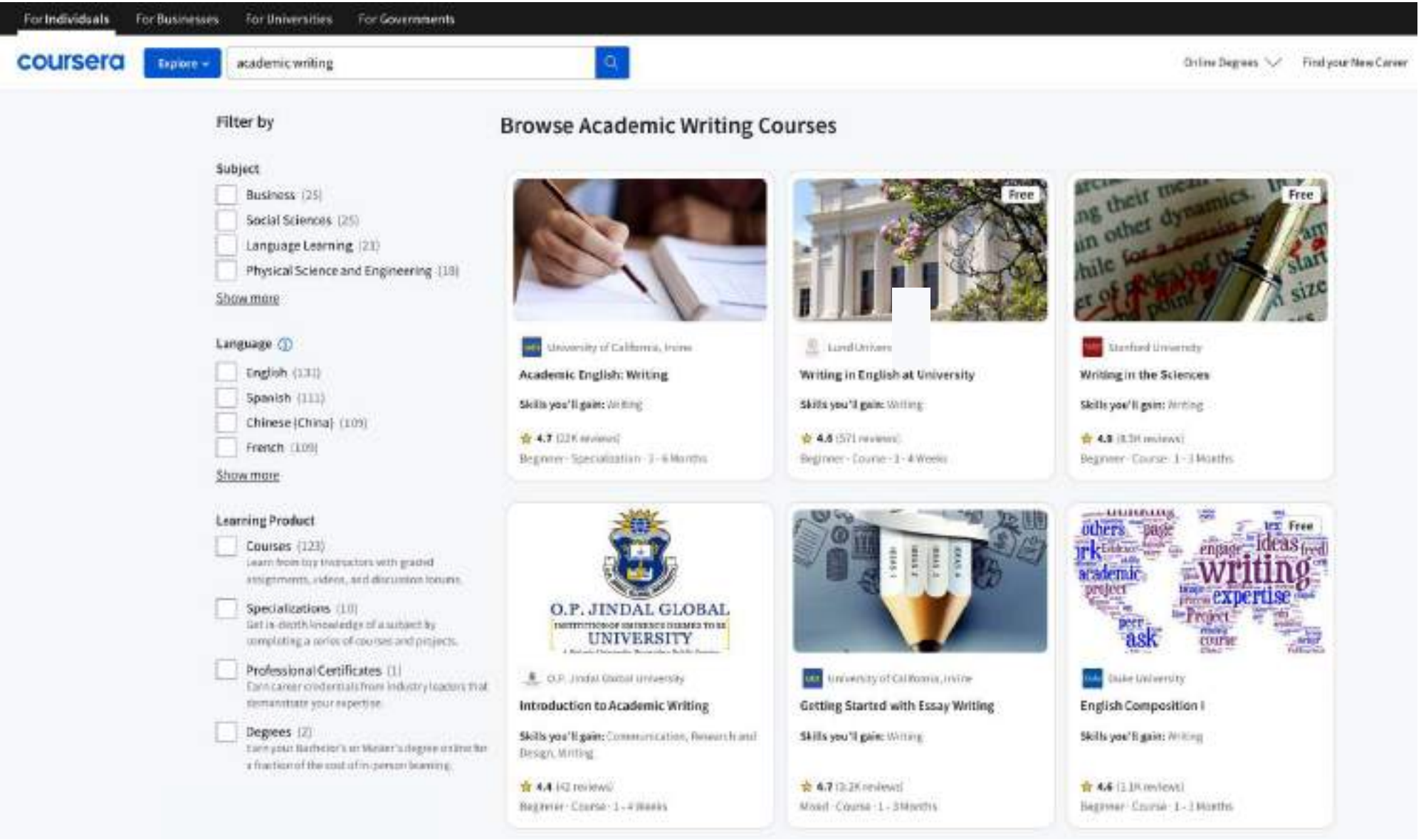
- The Writing Process
- Introductions
- Academic style
- Paraphrasing
- Nominalization
- Hedging
- Argumentation 1
- Argumentation 2
- Paragraphing
- Cohesion and Coherence
- Punctuating
- Summarising
- Conclusions
- Referencing

Online is a new web-based resource of materials designed for students of
elop and broaden their skills in academic English.

nts:

any of these materials require JavaScript enabled in your browser. We are currently developing some non-JavaScript versions.
f these materials also require the Adobe Flash plugin installed in your browser.

Academic Listening:
Resources



Academic Listening:
Resources

BINUS @ GREATER JAKARTA BEKASI BANDUNG MALANG SEMARANG

BINUS UNIVERSITY

Home > Course > Learn English for Academic Writing for Beginner

LEARN ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC WRITING FOR BEGINNER

This course focus on how to find a topic, how to conduct a library research, write notes and paper in academic style

Course Description

This course will help students to be able to understand about how to find a topic, how to conduct a library research, write notes and paper in academic style, reduce the number of mistakes in writing an English article, and plan and organize their paper which includes the introduction, body, and closing.

Course Topics

1. Introduction to Academic Writing
2. Finding a Topic
3. Breaking up Long Sentences
4. Planning and Organizing Your Research
5. Finding and Filtering Internet Sources
6. Giving Opinions and Arguments
7. Conducting Library Research
8. Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism

Author(s)

- Alex Jhon, S.S.,M.Hum.

The Managing Department

- English Literature

Category

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There has been a lot of hype about AI in the recent months.

And for a long time I've been sceptical about AI's ability to enhance your research writing skills.

But I must say I'm slowly becoming a convert.

I'm going from AI-agnostic to AI-believer.

Why?🤷‍♂️

Because AI is getting ever closer to being able to write scientific texts well.

In fact, it can already write short texts, such as an abstract, just as well or better than you and I would.

And do it significantly faster 💫

There's just one small catch... 💥

Watch this video to learn more: https://lnkd.in/eqj8shhV

So can AI really write scientific texts that are practically indistinguishable from texts written by published researchers?🤔

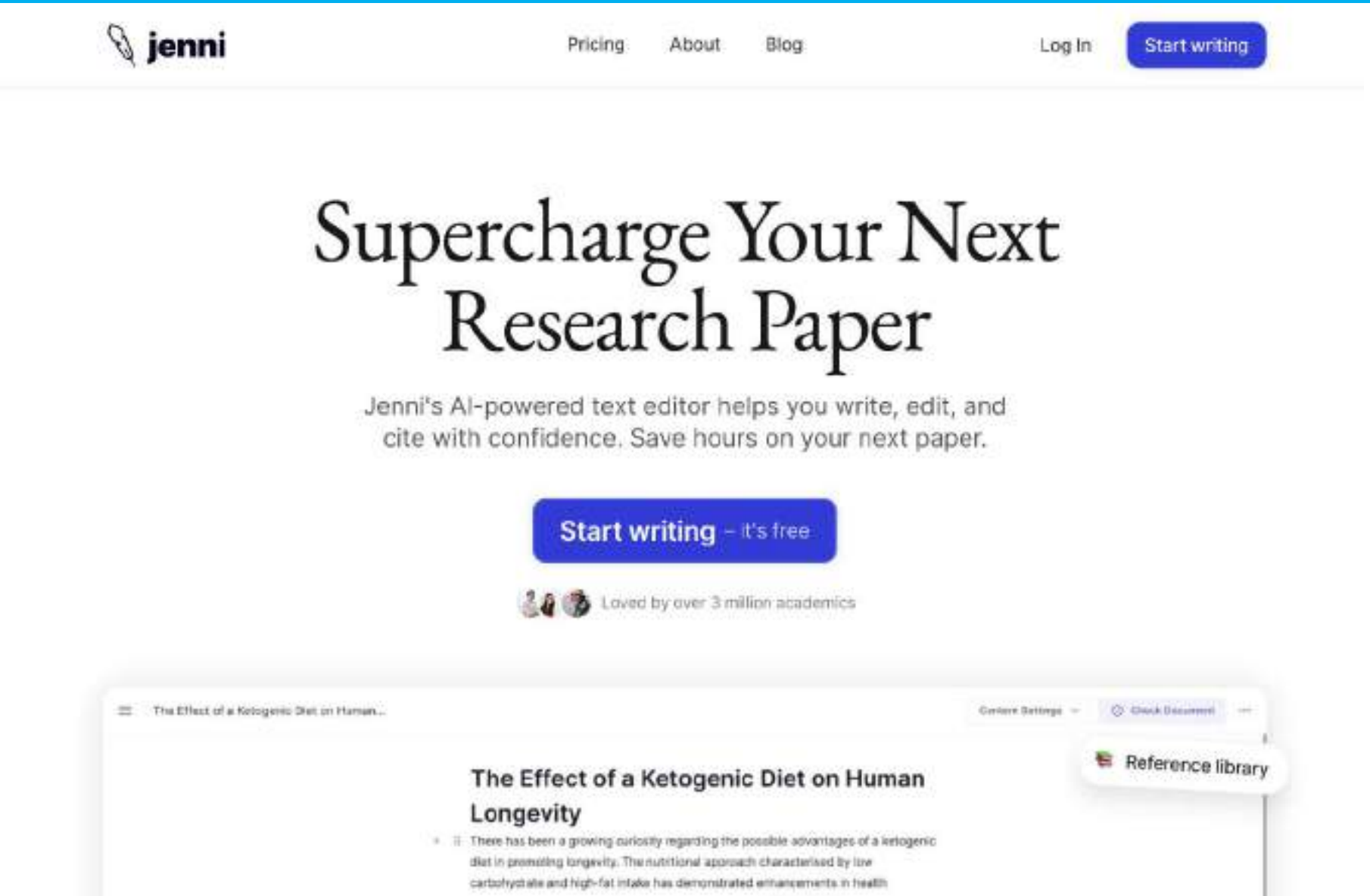
It can, provided you feed it the right information😬

And provided you know well how a specific text should be written😬

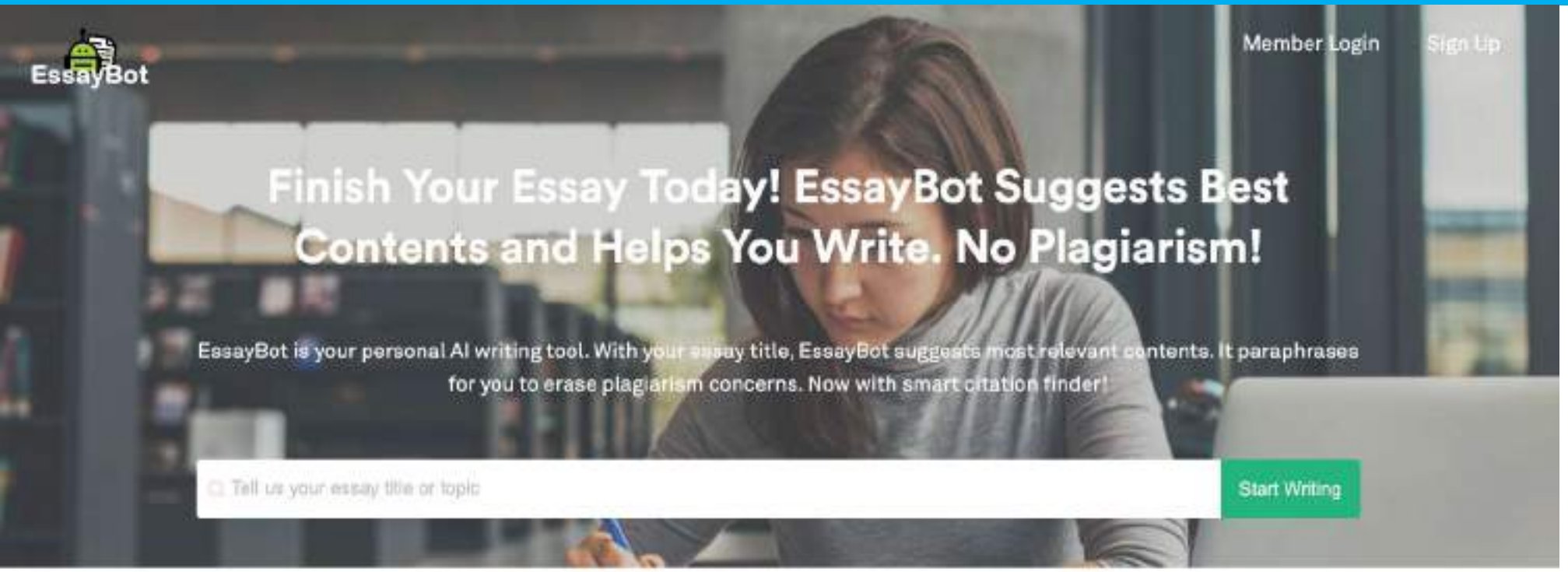
So that you can guide AI ✨

Mark

How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic writing skills



How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic writing skills



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- EssayBot is an essay writing assistant powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- Given the title and prompt, EssayBot helps you find inspirational sources, suggest and paraphrase sentences, as well as generate and complete sentences using AI.

How you could use Generative A.I. to improve your academic writing skills

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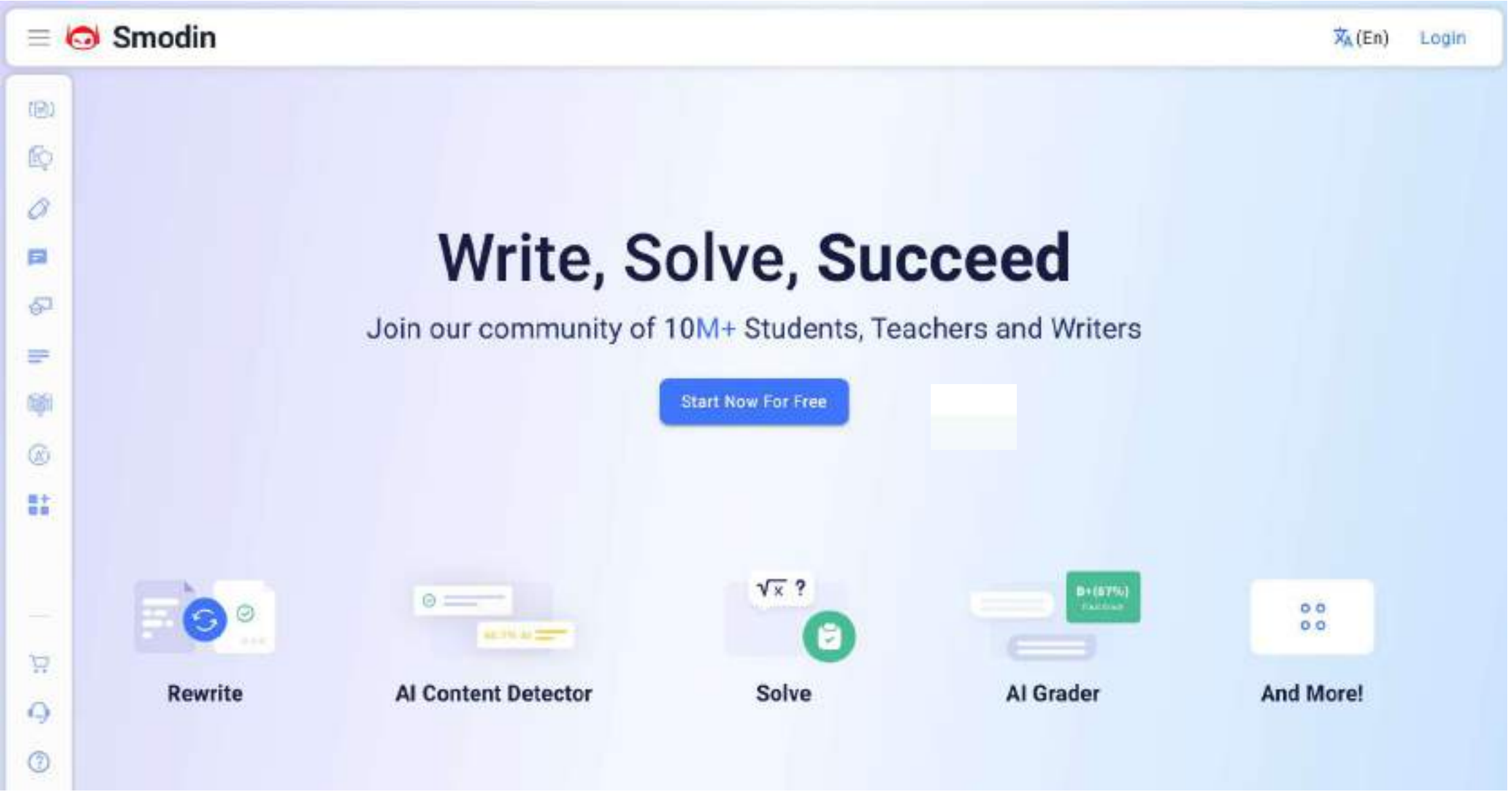


The Importance of Academic Speaking

1. Speaking with Confidence: Academic speaking demands confidence and clarity, whether in presentations, classroom discussions, or at conferences. It's about articulating thoughts clearly and persuasively in an academic setting.

2. Oratory Skills:
Developing strong oratory skills is essential for academic speaking. It encompasses proper pronunciation, effective pacing, and the use of rhetorical devices to engage the audience.

3. Discussion and Debate:
Participation in academic discussions and debates requires the ability to articulate points clearly, listen to and address counterpoints, and engage in critical thinking.

4. Public Speaking and Presentations: Mastery of public speaking is integral to academic communication. It involves organising content, employing visual aids effectively, and delivering presentations with authority.

Recommendations for improving your academic speaking skills

Purposeful Practice: Engage in deliberate speaking exercises by presenting topics to peers or a mirror. Articulate your points clearly and concisely and seek feedback on your delivery and content. Analyse examples of best practice.

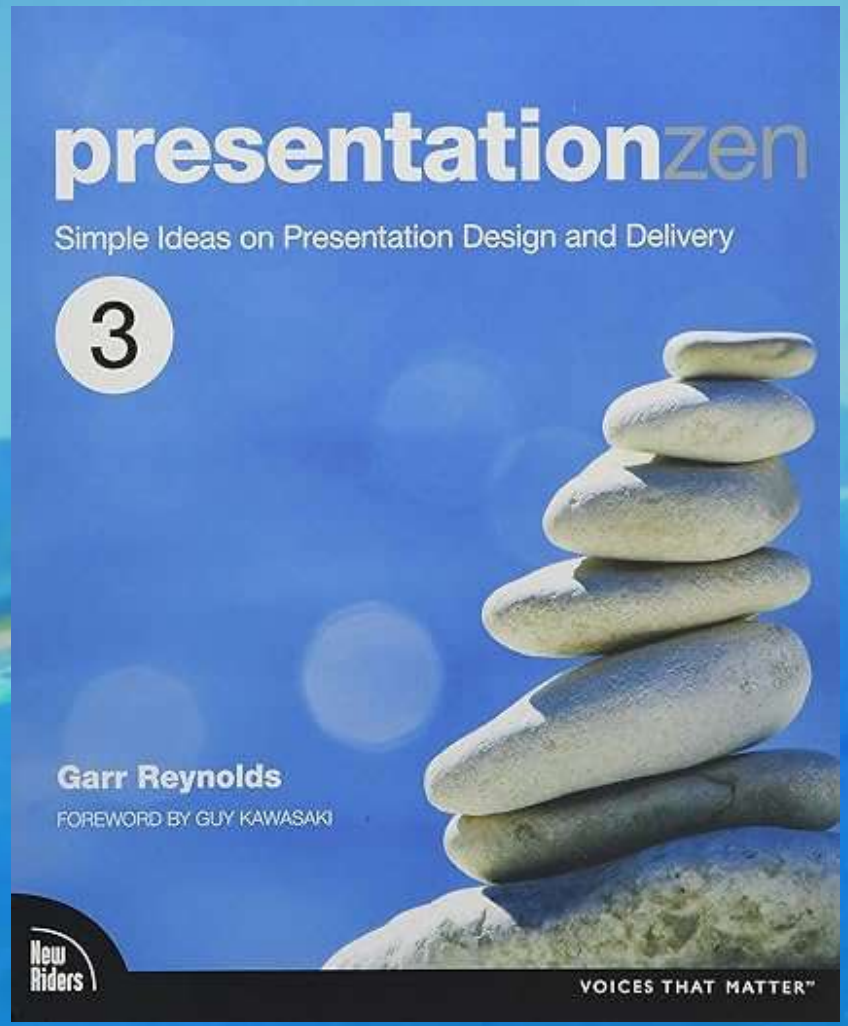
Public Speaking Opportunities: Volunteer for speaking engagements, workshops, or discussions within academic circles. Each experience builds confidence and skill, teaching you to adjust your message for various audiences and contexts.

Master the Art of Storytelling: Integrate stories into your academic presentations to make your content more relatable and memorable. Use real-life examples and personal anecdotes to engage your listeners.

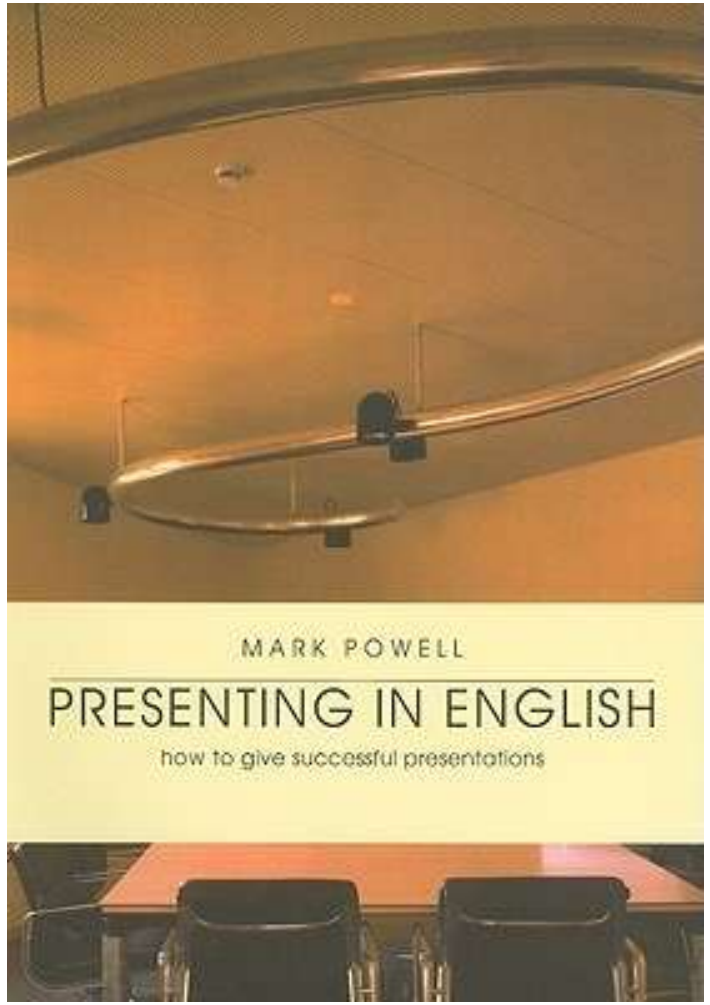
Interactive Engagement: Encourage questions and discussions during your talks to foster a dynamic exchange of ideas. This not only makes the session more interactive but also sharpens your ability to think on your feet and explain concepts with clarity.

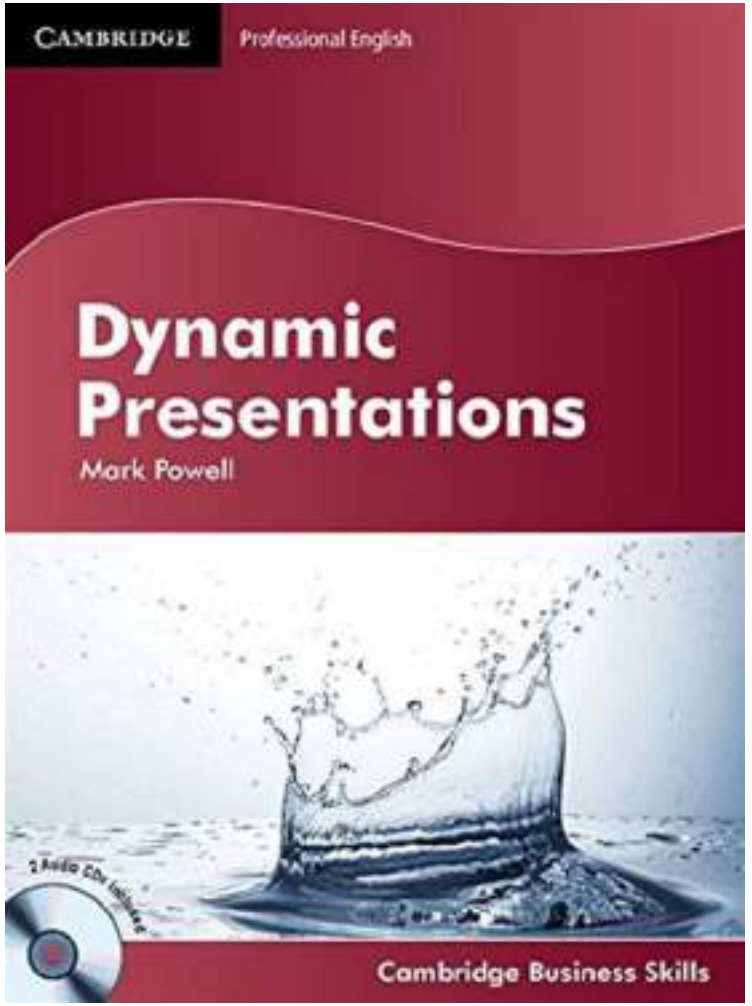
Author of the best-selling book on the art of presentation, **Presentation Zen**

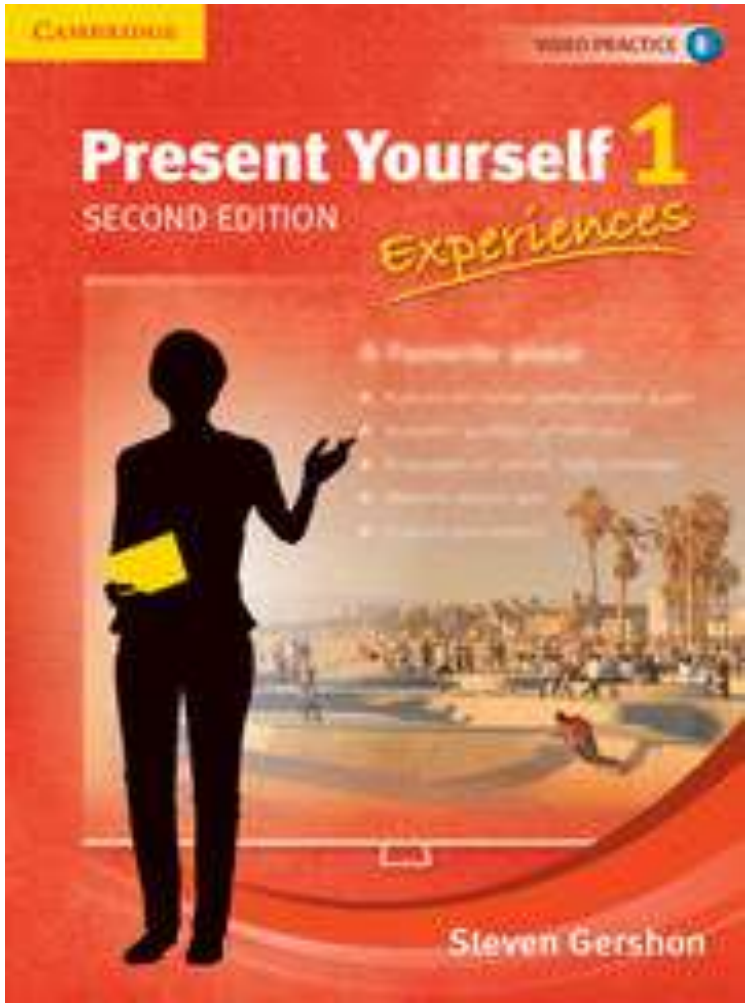
Presentation Zen is now in its 3rd edition and available in several languages worldwide.



Academic Speaking:
Resources







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- ✓ Mobile test
- ✓ Four skills
- ✓ CEFR level
- ✓ Monitor progress
- ✓ Dashboard
- ✓ Test - Free
- ✓ Certificate - Affordable

Universities

Set **minimum entry** requirements
Set **minimum exit** requirements
Support and **monitor student progress**
Support university lecturers to improve their language proficiency skills
Analyse **dashboard** information
Approved partner = **generate revenue**

Lecturers

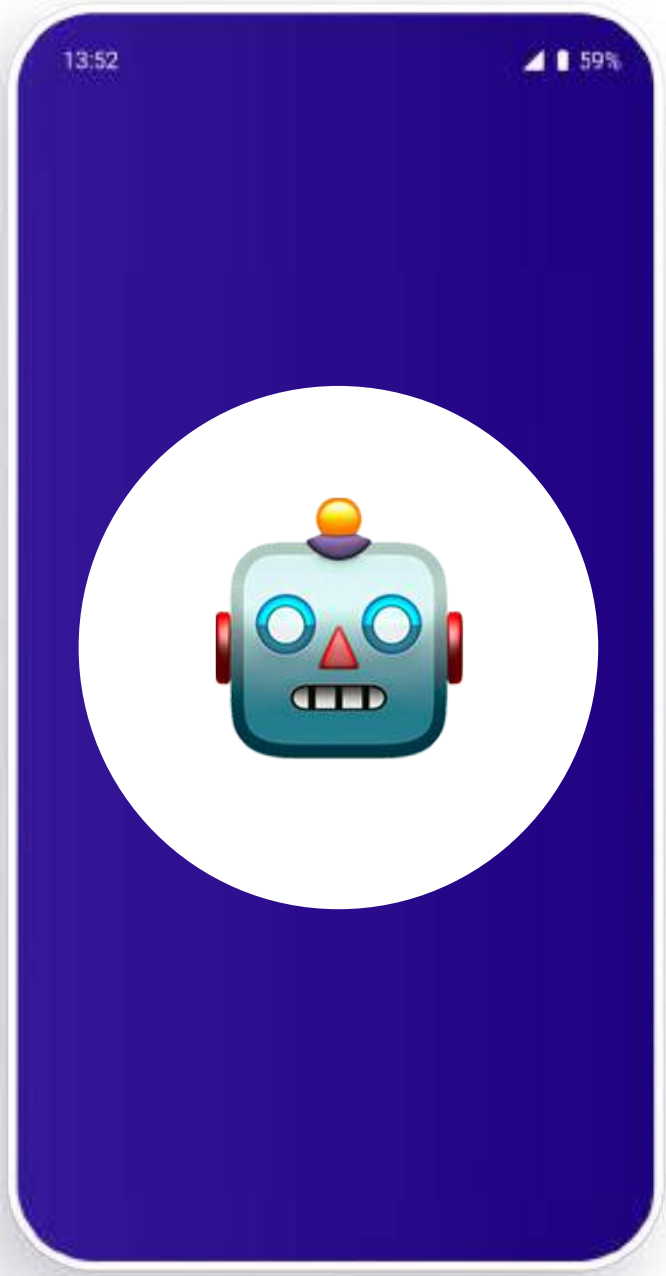
Measure proficiency level in reading, listening, speaking and writing (CEFR)
Improve assessment literacy and more accurately assess students
Improve EAP skills: research, write and publish academic papers
Improve EMI skills: lecture in English
Get **scholarship** for further studies

Students

Measure proficiency level in reading, listening, speaking and writing (CEFR)
Monitor progress
Prepare for high stakes – often required for overseas studies and scholarships.
Improve employability with an official EnglishScore certificate

3

Using Generative AI to Enhance Academic English



4

Audience Q&A

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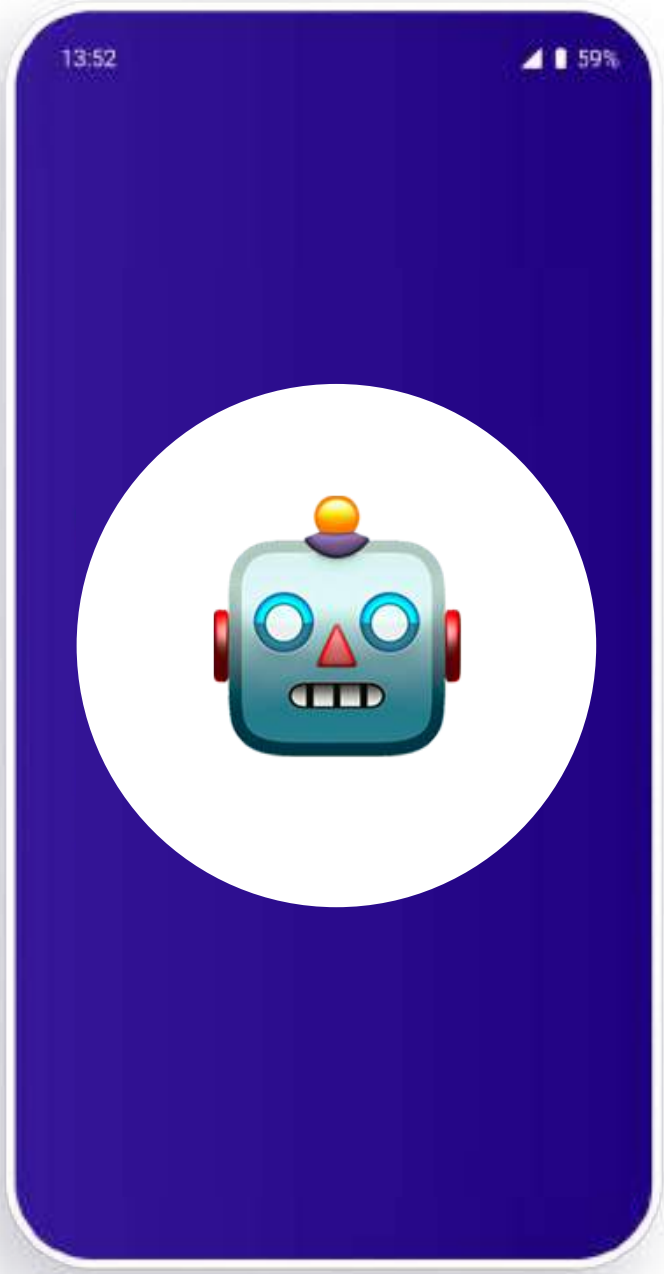
Advancing Academic English through AI: Strategies for Higher Education



Colm Downes

Thursday 9 May 2024

The 2nd IELA International Hybrid Conference, Batu City