

University of Biskra

Level: Master II

Section of English

Course: Academic Writing

Lecturer: Dr. Ahmed Chaouki HOADJLI

Groups: All

Full Name: _____ /

Group: _____ /

Score: _____ /

First Semester Achievement Test **[ANSWER KEYS]**

Allocated time: One hour

PART ONE: Academic Writing Key Components

13pts

Activity 1: Read the phrases/statements in below and: - Identify the type of mistake.

- Re-write and make them more formal. _____

a. Culturally sensitive qualitative techniques.

- **Type of the mistake:** Noun String.
- **The corrected version:** Culturally sensitive techniques for qualitative interviews.

b. I think the results obtained from the focus group provide a good description of the participants' behaviour.

- **Type of the mistake:** Subjectivity.
- **The corrected version:** The results obtained from the survey provide a description of the phenomena.

c. The suggested test can't indicate whether there is an improvement, or not.

- **Type of the mistake:** Contraction.
- **The corrected version:** The suggested test cannot indicate whether there is an improvement, or not.

d. The percentage of correct responses, as well as the speed of the responses, increase with practice.

- **Type of the mistake:** Subject-verb Agreement.
- **The corrected version:** The percentage of correct responses, as well as the speed of the responses, increases with practice.

e. There were several students who completed the questionnaire.

- **Type of the mistake:** Wordiness.
- **The corrected version:** Several students completed the questionnaire.

Activity 2: Underline and correct the academic writing mistakes in the following _____

Academic writing is commonly defined as a genre of writing. Hoshima and Hogue (2007) stated that academic writing is a formal writing used in formal settings. Bailey (2003) restricts academic writing in educational context. According to Schafersmen (1991); “writing forces students to evaluate their thoughts and present their conclusions”. In other words, learners proceed with steps, organizing, revising, and editing. I believe that academic writing is considered as a multifunctional tool in higher education. So, it’s crucial for EFI students to consider its importance.

[1, Consistency in tense use]
[2, Punctuation misuse]
[3, The page number is required]
[4, Subjectivity]
[5+6, Informal language] [7, Acronyms must be spelled out] [8, Consistency in word use]

PART TWO: Academic Written Production

07pts

Activity: Write a composition of no more than 10 lines about this topic _____

What academic writing key features should you take into account to make your final written product (master dissertation) fit the research requirements?

A. The composition should identify these assumptions:

- The main objective of academic writing is clear communication. This can be presented by presenting ideas in an orderly and concise manner.
- Establishing an appropriate tone, clear, and precise word choice and sentence structure can contribute into the realisation of impactful work.
- To achieve this, academic writing key features need to be taken into consideration; these mainly concern (1) conciseness, (2) clarity, (3) flow and continuity, (4) formal language, and (5) general rules of grammar and usage.

B. The evaluation of the composition takes into account the quality of writing. This concerns:

- Coherence and cohesion.
- Sentence structure.
- Clarity and conciseness of sentences/ideas.
- Spelling.
- Punctuation and mechanics.