Academic Writing

Whatever your subject, year or level of study, you will find a range of resources and web links here to help you with academic writing. Writing at university may seem different to other writing experiences you’ve had but it is important to realise that it is part of a process which you develop over time (and not overnight!).

By accessing the sources on these pages, you can improve your understanding of what is meant by academic writing and how you can develop and enhance your own writing.

* [What is academic writing](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6313)? This guide offers a brief overview of what academic writing is and why it is important to understand some basic principles.
* [Essay planning](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6267)This guide offers advice upon how to break down your essay/assignment into manageable sections.
* [Unpacking the assignment question](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6275)A useful list explaining ‘direction’ words and terms commonly found in assignment titles.
* [Essay analysis: self-help checklist](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/4252)Use this guide as a checklist when completing academic work*.*
* [Proof-reading guide](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6909) A short guide offering some practical tips to help with proof-reading.
* [Academic writing guide: critical analysis explained](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6322) This guide explains the difference between critical analysis and description. It is generic, and includes non-subject specific series of explanations.

Here are some quick guides you might find useful.  They can help you avoid some of the common mistakes made using punctuation – don’t forget punctuation errors can cost you marks!

* [Apostrophes: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6731)
* [Capital letters: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/6732)
* [Commas: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/2621)
* [Full Stops: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/2625)
* [Hyphens, dashes and brackets: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/2632)
* [Question mark, semi-colon, colon: Top tips](http://www.eshare.edgehill.ac.uk/id/document/2637)