Writing the Solution/Benefits Paragraphs
Week 3 Lesson 1
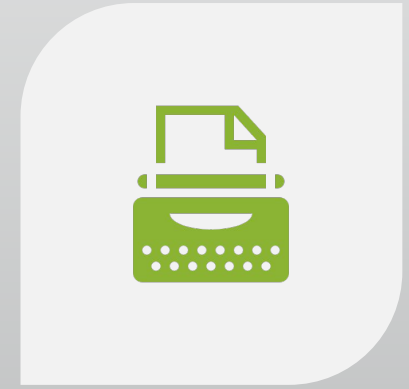
English for Academic Purposes
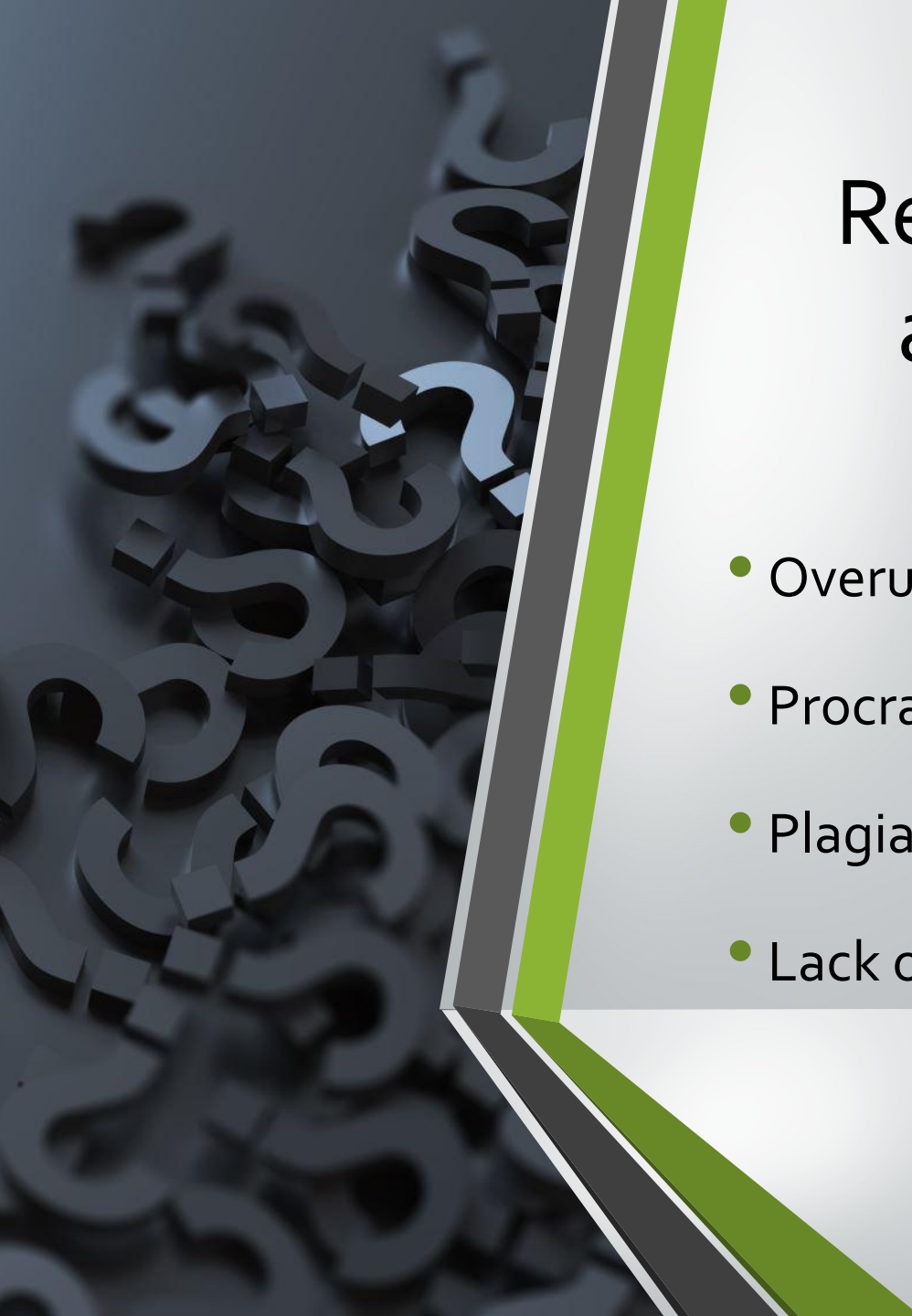
Week 3 Outline

LESSON 1 WRITING TWO BODY PARAGRAPHS: SOLUTIONS

LESSON 2 PROOFREADING

Read the problems given below and suggest their solution(s)

- Overuse of or "addiction" to technology - _____

- Procrastination – _____

- Plagiarism – _____

- Lack of attention span – _____

Sample analysis

- Read the sample of a solution paragraph written on the problems of circadian rhythms. Match the sentences (1-5) with sentence types (A-D).

A. A topic sentence with solution ___1___

B. Supporting sentences with evidence, reasons, examples with in-text citations ___3,4___

C. An evaluation sentence ___2___

D. A concluding sentence ___5___

To tackle the issues related to circadian rhythms, people should pay attention to their daily activities and plan their day in advance (1). It is highly effective to schedule one's day using different technological devices or applications such as smart watches, Evernote and so on (2). **According to Smith (2016), people** who plan their day in advance and allocate at least thirty minutes a day to physical activities, especially cardio exercises, sleep well at night and feel energized in a daytime (3). Athletes who track their sleep and water balance, follow a particular regime in fulfilling daily training goals, improved their circadian rhythm and general well-being (Johnson, 2018) (4). Planning and following a healthy daily routine will prevent overworking late at night and make people listen to the natural body signals dictated by their biological clocks (5).

Hedging language

- Authors often hedge or 'soften' what they say to avoid certainty. You also need to hedge your language when writing solution paragraphs.

- For that, use modal verbs (can, may, could), verbs like seem, appear, and adverbs and adverbial phrases (arguably, to some extend). Read the examples below and find the elements of hedging language:

  1. It seems, could
  - It seems exercising for 5-10 min in the mornings could help prevent heart attack

  2. It is possible
  - It is possible that cutting calories will reduce weight

  3. There is a high possibility
  - There is a high possibility that providing internet to every home will improve the quality of education

  4. may
  - Law enforcement may help solve the issues with immigration

Evaluation

- Evaluation is part of the process of analysing solutions, and a way of indicating opinion or stance. Match the structures with examples used in expressing evaluation:

Structure	Correct answer	Example
1)This is/would be/ can be/ may be (etc) + adjective	1)B	A) … and has **huge implications** for the future.
2) This + would + adverb + verb	2)C	B) This might be unpopular in urban areas
3) It is + adverb + adjective + noun	3)D	C) This would probably help in some extend
4) evaluation shown with a noun phrase	4)A	D) It is a highly effective strategy

Let's look at some more examples of evaluation language in writing solution paragraphs

- **Evaluation language through nouns and adjectives, such as:**

- Achievement, success, opportunity, solution (positive)

- Risk, chaos, disaster, doom, sprawl (negative)

- Effect, impact, trend, transformation (neutral)

- Measurable, obvious, unforeseen (adjectives)

- E.g., *GM plants do not add to any of these ==existing== risks or pose any new ==compelling== risks of ==any magnitude.==*

 This is done by adding ==adjectives==; by framing this language in longer structures which contain verbs; by optionally adding ==further   language to express ideas such as the degree of certainty.== This structure answers the central evaluative question: *How likely is it?*

- Further adjectives can be added to express evaluation:

    … on occasion, there may be ***significant environmental*** risks.

- Some more examples:

- GM plants **have proven to be among the safest** of agricultural technologies.

- **It has worked so far**.

    After growing trillions of transgenic plants in the US during the past 14 years, there **have been no ecological disasters, no** injures, or death, and **no negative measurable effects** whatsoever…;
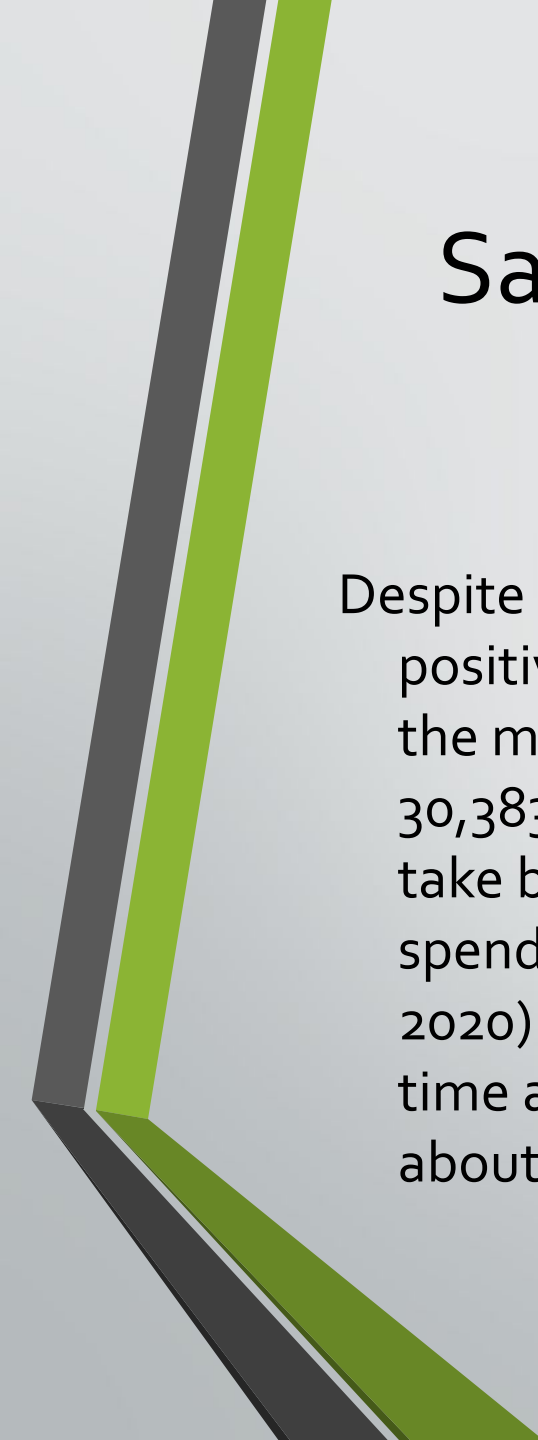
Writing solution paragraphs. Recommendations on writing solution paragraphs

What would you recommend to your classmate when writing a solution paragraph?

Make sure the solution addresses the problem
Don't sound too certain, hedge your language

Support your argument with evidence and examples
Provide in-text citations when giving examples

Think if the solution is feasible, evaluate it

Check if the concluding sentence is not opposing the idea in the topic sentence

Sample paragraph: The positive aspects of online learning

Despite many negative aspects of the sudden switch to distance education, the positive effects of it on personal and development care were also observed. One of the most comprehensive studies on this topic, conducted in early 2020, involved 30,383 students from 62 countries found that self-isolation allowed students to take better care of their health, improving their eating habits, personal hygiene, spend more time on their hobbies, sports, family and relatives (Aristovnik et al., 2020). This shows that some students were able to constructively use their spare time and turn to advantage the potentially difficult situation that was brought about by the fast spread of Covid-19 virus.

Practice (20 min)

Problem: The level of procrastination is increasing among AITU students

- Read the problem and think of ONE solution of the problem

- Write ONE solution paragraph in 125-150 words (10 min)

- Post your paragraph in chat box

- Before posting, check your work with recommendations given on slide 5.

HW 4

- Write TWO solution paragraphs (in 125-150 words each). Add them to problem paragraphs you wrote the previous week. In total you need to submit 4 paragraphs: 2 problem+2 solution paragraphs. Complete the task in the template (on Moodle in week 2).

- Before submission make sure:

  ✔ A) each paragraph has an appropriate structure

  ✔ B) each topic sentence states the problem/solution clearly and they are relevant to the problem

  ✔ C) examples/arguments are paraphrased sentences/short summaries given with in-text citations in APA (where appropriate)

  ✔ D) concluding sentences confirm the idea/s in the topic sentences

  ✔ E) each paragraph is written in 125-150 words.

	Assessment rubric structure	
	Body paragraphs: topic of the essay, problem paragraphs, solutionparagraphs, paragraph structure, word count	50
	Academic language: grammar and stylistic variety, academic vocabulary	30
	Organisation: cohesion and coherence	10
	APA guideline: referencing and formatting	10

For the full assessment rubric form, refer to Midterm assessment rubric.doc on Moodle

Quiz

A body paragraph must have:

- A) a thesis statement, statistics, a concluding sentence
- B) a topic sentence, supporting sentences with examples, a concluding sentence
- C) several ideas relevant to the topic

It is enough to give references at the end without in-text citations in the paragraphs

- Right, reference list is enough
- Wrong, you must provide in-text citations in the paragraphs

A number of sources in the paragraphs don't have to match with the number of sources in the reference list

- Right, they may differ
- Wrong, they must be identical

Thank you!