

Grammar webinars

'argue', 'argued', 'have argued' - three important verb tenses in academic communication.

If you need to choose a verb tense when writing academically, more than 95% of the time it will be one of these three. Using examples from a range of academic areas, this session will look at the key uses of present simple, past simple, and present perfect and the impact of tense choice on meaning.

Writing successful sentences (1): Clause Types

Understanding different clause structures will help you write more accurately and clearly. This session will review different clause types and how they are used to link and combine ideas in academic writing.

Writing successful sentences (2): Relative Clauses

Relative clauses have many uses in academic writing including adding information to more precisely define an object, and developing an idea further by clarifying, explaining or commenting. This session will use examples from a range of disciplines to look at relative clause use in academic texts.

Writing successful sentences (3): Punctuation

Poor punctuation can make your meaning unclear and give a negative impression to your readers. Join this session to look at some of the trickier aspects of punctuation in English.

'the' or 'a' or zero? – effective article use

Article use is “one of the most difficult points in English grammar” (Swan, 2005) and is often the last area that advanced language learners master. Join this session to learn more about when to use ‘the’, ‘a/an’ or no article in academic writing.

Noun Phrases: the building blocks of academic texts

Noun phrases can convey complex academic information in a compact form. In this session we will look at the identification of long noun phrases to enhance your academic reading, and the creation of long noun phrases to improve your academic writing.

The passive - when to and when not to use it

Although the passive voice is common in academic writing, it is important not to over-use it. This session will use examples of academic writing from a range of disciplines to look at effective and appropriate use of the passive voice.

'may', 'might', 'can', 'could', 'should' ... - An overview of modal verbs

Modal verbs are an important tool in academic writing. This session will use academic examples to look at how modal verbs are employed to achieve different functions, such as softening or strengthening claims.