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ENHANCING ACADEMIC WRITING SKILLS IN VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

G.M.Mirkhodjaeva
Turin polytechnic university in Tashkent, senior teacher
gulrukh.mirkhodjaeva@polito.uz

Abstract: This article introduces teaching academic writing skills for students using modern environment. Also, taking into account that Writing is a fundamental skill crucial for academic success and professional growth, it includes advancements in artificial intelligence (AI). AI-powered writing tools have revolutionized and developed the ways for students learning and improving their writing skills, offering automated feedback, personalized learning experiences, and enhanced writing capabilities across various genres and disciplines.

As well as, the process of how to enhance and improve students' academic writing in various ways, upgrading the manner in which students approach writing, helping them advance their skills and unlock their full potential.

Key words:

Academic writing, instructional strategies, techniques and methods, critical thinking, analytical and evaluative skills, writing process, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading, virtual, learning environments

Introduction

Most international students need to write essays and reports for exams and coursework. Yet writing good academic English is one of the most demanding tasks students face. So, lets answer for the question what is academic writing? Academic writing is a vital skill for students across various disciplines. It involves the ability to communicate ideas, arguments, and research findings in a clear and concise manner. Academic writing often follows specific conventions, such as proper citation of sources, logical organization of content, and a formal tone.

How can virtual environment enhance students' academic writing?

Artificial intelligence can offer students various ways to improve their academic writing fluency. Here are some ways in which virtual environment can be utilized:

1.Grammar and spelling checking: virtual environment powered tools can instantly identify grammar and spelling mistakes in students' writing, providing suggestions for corrections. This saves time for both students and educators, enabling them to focus on more critical aspects of the writing process.

2.Style and clarity suggestions: virtual environment algorithms can help students enhance the clarity, coherence, and style of their writing by providing suggestions for sentence rephrasing, eliminating wordiness, and improving overall readability.

3.Plagiarism detection: virtual environment systems can accurately detect instances of plagiarism in students' work by comparing it to a vast database of scholarly resources. This helps students develop ethical writing practices and ensures the authenticity of their academic work.

4.Providing feedback: virtual environment powered tools can generate virtual environment led feedback on students' writing, highlighting areas for improvement and offering suggestions to enhance their critical thinking, logical reasoning, and analytical skills.

5.Generating writing prompts: virtual environment algorithms can generate writing prompts on specific topics, providing students with a starting point for their writing

assignments and encouraging them to think creatively.

The integration of virtual environment in academic writing can significantly benefit students by providing them with immediate, personalized feedback, allowing them to learn from their mistakes and continuously upgrade their writing skills. Virtual environment tools can also assist educators in managing large class sizes, reducing the time spent on grading and providing more focused guidance to students. [7]

Academic writing skills are essential for students in higher education, but they can be challenging to teach and learn in a virtual learning environment. How can teacher help the students develop their writing abilities and confidence online? Here are some tips and strategies to consider.

1. Setting clear expectations
2. Using interactive tools
3. Incorporating multimodal resources
4. Scaffolding the writing process
5. Fostering a writing community
6. Providing ongoing support

1. Setting clear expectations. One of the first steps to teach academic writing skills online is to communicate clearly what you expect from your students in terms of format, style, content, and assessment criteria. You can use rubrics, checklists, models, and examples to illustrate your expectations and guide your students through the writing process. You can also provide feedback and suggestions on drafts and revisions to help your students improve their writing quality and skills.

2. Using interactive tools. Another way to teach academic writing skills online is to use interactive tools and platforms that can enhance your students' engagement and collaboration. For example, you can use online discussion forums, blogs, wikis, or podcasts to create authentic writing tasks and contexts for your students. You can also use online annotation tools, peer review systems, or video conferencing to facilitate feedback and dialogue among your students and between you and your students.

3. Incorporating multimodal resources. A third way to teach academic writing skills online is to incorporate multimodal resources and materials that can support your students' learning and development. For example, you can use videos, podcasts, infographics, or e-books to introduce or televirtual environment key concepts, theories, or methods related to your discipline or topic. You can also use online databases, libraries, or repositories to help your students access and evaluate relevant sources and evidence for their writing.

4. Scaffolding the writing process. A fourth way to teach academic writing skills online is to scaffold the writing process and break it down into manageable steps and stages for your students. For example, you can use online templates, outlines, or planners to help your students organize their ideas and structure their writing. You can also use online quizzes, exercises, or games to help your students practice their grammar, vocabulary, or citation skills.

5. Fostering a writing community. A fifth way to teach academic writing skills online is to foster a writing community and a sense of belonging among your students. For example, you can use online groups, chats, or forums to create a space for your students to share their writing experiences, challenges, and successes. You can also use online badges, rewards, or recognition to motivate and encourage your students to write and learn together.

6. Providing ongoing support. A sixth way to teach academic writing skills online is to provide ongoing support and guidance for your students throughout the course. For example, you can use online surveys, polls, or feedback forms to monitor your students'

progress, needs, and satisfaction. You can also use online tutorials, workshops, or webinars to address your students' questions, concerns, or difficulties. You can also use online resources, links, or referrals to direct your students to additional writing support or services. [10]

Conclusion

In conclusion, the advancements in artificial intelligence present exciting opportunities to enhance students' academic writing skills. By using virtual environment -powered tools and applications, students can benefit from automated grammar and spell checking, enhanced proofreading, vocabulary enhancement, plagiarism detection, writing style improvement, assistance with organization and structure, and research support. overall, virtual environment can play a significant role in empowering students to produce high-quality, well-written academic papers. As well as, virtual environment offers immense potential for improving students' academic writing fluency. [9]. By utilizing virtual environment-powered tools and algorithms, students can enhance their writing skills, ensuring their work meets the established standards of scholarly writing. With the help of virtual environment, students can develop strong communication and critical thinking abilities, empowering them to succeed academically and professionally.

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