



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AGE 3381

LECTURE 9: *Writing and Presenting the Research Project*

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WHAT HAS THIS COURSE BEEN ABOUT?



THE RESEARCH PROCESS



LECTURE FOCUS

- Recap of on academic writing
- Writing up your research
- Presenting your research
- Defending your research (Dissertation defence)



WHAT IS ACADEMIC WRITING

- Writing at tertiary level
- Follows conventions on structure, style and content
- All forms have the same goals and principles
- All address a specific type of audience



CHARACTERISTICS OF ACADEMIC WRITING

- ▶ In academic writing you do the following
 - ▶ Ask good questions and find answers
 - ▶ Discuss and interpret your answers with logic
 - ▶ Show your understanding and appreciation of the topic
 - ▶ Be precise, impersonal and objective
 - ▶ Use formal vocabulary and references
 - ▶ Avoid value judgement and biases



PURPOSE OF ACADEMIC WRITING

- ▶ A writer at academic level writes for one of the following reasons
 - ▶ To answer a question the writer has been given or chosen
 - ▶ To discuss a subject of common interest and give the writers view
 - ▶ To synthesize research done by others on a topic
 - ▶ To report on a piece of research the writer has conducted

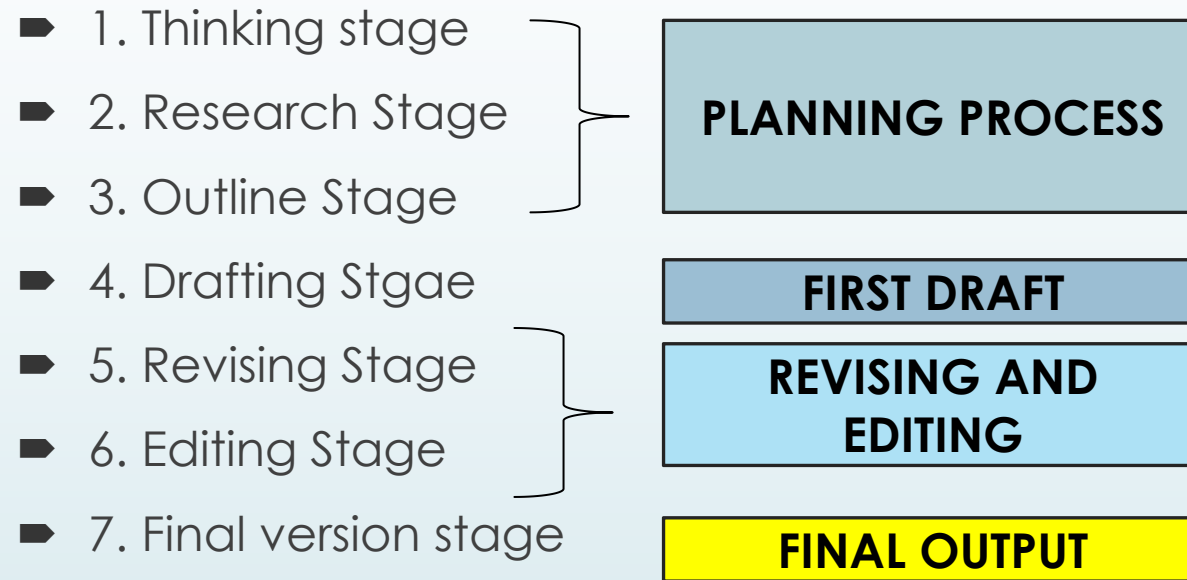


STRUCTURE OF ACADEMIC WRITING

- ▶ Many pieces of academic writing are organized in a similar structure that demonstrates the logical order and coherence of different parts. These include:
 - ▶ **INTRODUCTION:** Sets the stage for the subject, states the problem or issue, and introduces the topic and the way it is to be treated
 - ▶ **BODY: (The development of ideas)** presents, analyses and discusses the subject with necessary details and illustrations.
 - ▶ **CONCLUSION:** Sums up what has been discussed, gives final comments on the topic and leaves the reader with the sense of closure



ACADEMIC WRITING PROCESS



CRITICAL THINKING

- ▶ Critical thinking is
 - ▶ The analysis and evaluation of ideas and information in order to reach sound judgements and conclusions
 - ▶ It is central to any discussion, to decision making and to problem solving
- ▶ You should therefore be able to
 - ▶ Develop a healthy skepticism towards any information presented as fact
 - ▶ Apply reasoning and logic to new and unfamiliar ideas , opinions and situations
 - ▶ See things in an open minded way and examine an idea or concept from many angles
 - ▶ Look past ones own views and better understand the opinions of others



WRITING UP YOUR RESEARCH

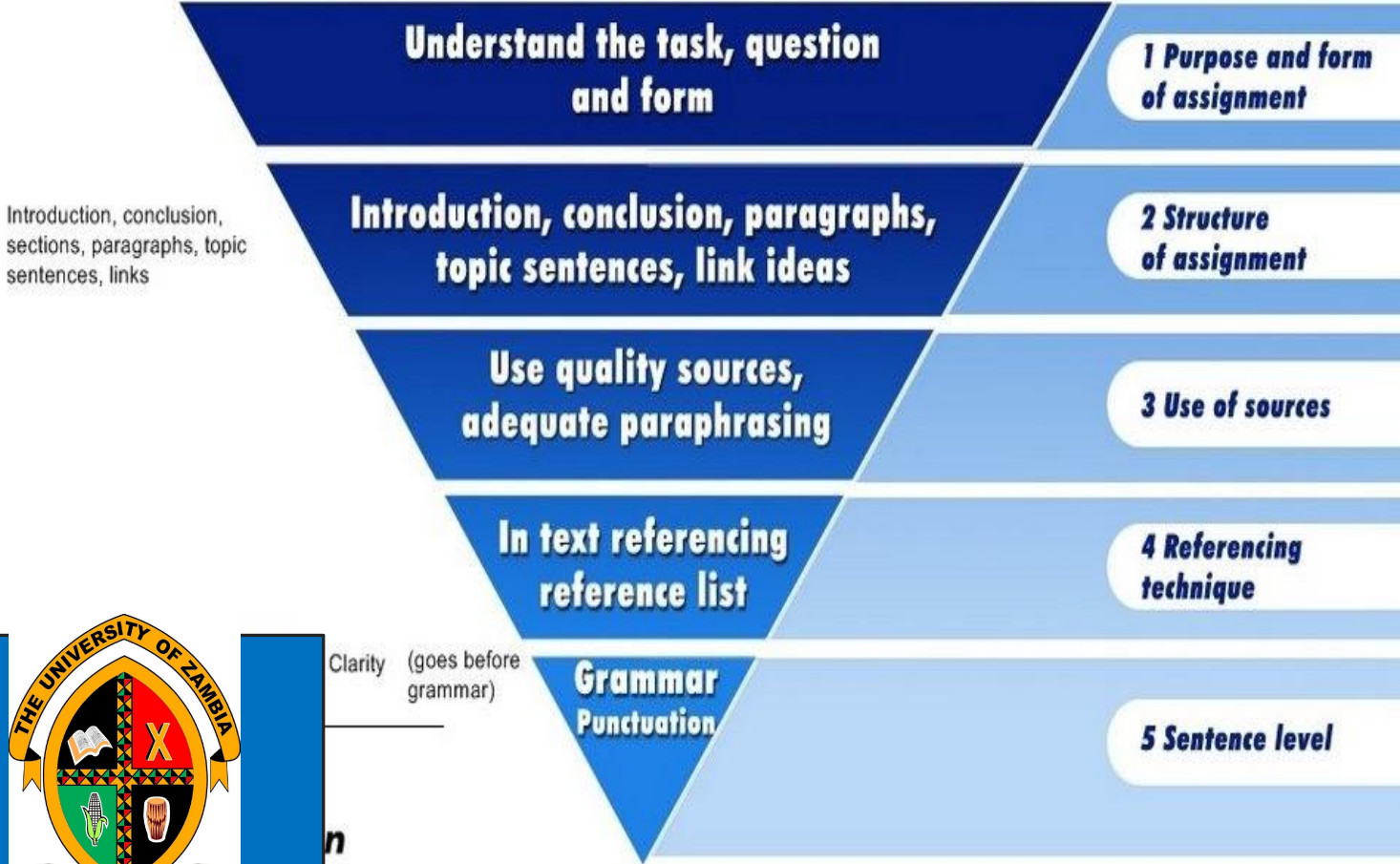
- ▶ Start Early
- ▶ Be persuasive
- ▶ Get feedback (supervision processes)
- ▶ Be clear and concise (avoid unnecessary jargon)
- ▶ Structure your writing



EACH STAGE OF THE WRITING PROCESS MUST INVOLVE



Academic writing triangle



Introduction, conclusion, sections, paragraphs, topic sentences, links

Clarity (goes before grammar)

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PRESENTING YOUR RESEARCH

- ▶ 1. Introduction
- ▶ 2. Review of Literature
- ▶ 3. Methodology
- ▶ 4. Analysis
- ▶ 4. Results
- ▶ 5. Discussion



DEFENDING YOUR RESEARCH (DISSERTATION DEFENCE)





THE END

