

Contents

1	Introduction to Academic Writing	7
1.1	Genre awareness: Conventions, contexts and creativity	7
1.2	Academic collectives	8
1.3	How to use this book	9
2	General writing conventions	13
2.1	Key structures: Writing with paragraphs and topic sentences	13
2.2	Key directions: Using signposts	15
2.3	Key persons: Writing “I”, “we” or in passive voice	17
2.4	Key actions: More verbs, less nouns	18
2.5	Key genders: Using gender-inclusive language	19
2.6	Key sources: Citing other research	20
3	Abstracts: Summarizing your study	23
3.1	OHE: Observe – hypothesize – experiment	23
3.2	Abstracts: The five-finger pattern in science	24
3.3	Abstracts: Five-finger patterns in the humanities	29
3.4	The language of opening sentences	33
3.5	The language of aims and objectives	35
3.6	The language of methods	38
3.7	The language of findings	40
3.8	The language of conclusions and implications	41
3.9	An example from the field	43
4	Introductions: Beginning your paper	47
4.1	The general ‘moves’ of academic Introductions	47
4.2	The specific ‘steps’ of academic Introductions	52
4.3	Establishing and occupying a niche	53
4.4	Writing hypotheses	60
5	Empirical research papers: Presenting empirical research	67
5.1	IMRAD	67
5.2	Methods	68
5.3	Results	73
5.4	Discussion	76
5.5	Figures	81

6	Theoretical, interpretative and analytical writing	87
6.1	Developing an argument	88
6.2	Selecting relevant information from sources	89
6.3	Establishing your position I: Finding an authorial 'voice'	89
6.4	Establishing your position II: Engaging with sources	93
6.5	Presenting your argument in a coherent manner	102
6.6	Conclusions	107
7	Posters: Visualising your abstract	113
7.1	The purpose of posters	113
7.2	Attractive, compelling and professional	114
7.3	How much information?	118
7.4	Titling your poster	120
7.5	Including images, diagrams and graphs	122
7.6	Using clear language	126
8	Research proposals: Making plans for future studies	131
8.1	A basic model structure	132
8.2	Stating objectives and research question(s)	133
8.3	Stating potential significance	136
8.4	Research design and methods	137
8.5	Expected results	140
8.6	Research limitations	141
8.7	References, timetable and appendices	142
8.8	Common pitfalls	144
9	Diverse genres: Lab reports, short essays, thought papers and case reports	147
9.1	Lab reports	147
9.2	Short essays	152
9.3	Thought papers	158
9.4	Case reports	163
10	Further resources	173
10.1	Continuing alone	173
10.2	Continuing in groups	174
10.3	Academic vocabulary online	174
10.4	Further online resources	176
	References	181
	Index	191