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Academic writing & listening

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For the development of students' skills in English for General Academic Purposes (EGAP), English Writing-Listening A (EWLA) consists of three components: writing, listening, and vocabulary.

For practice with writing, students identify, recognize, or understand basic elements of academic writing and, then, recall and apply this knowledge in the process of organizing and revising a short academic essay of at least 300 words. Under the guidance of the instructor they learn necessary foundational academic writing skills as stated in the Course Goal section below.

For practice with listening, students take the online course known as GORILLA (Global Online Resources for International Language Learning Assistance) outside class. They are assessed on their listening proficiency through weekly online assignments, as well as the four tests that the instructor administers in class.

For vocabulary learning, students use the standard reference book titled "Kyoto University Vocabulary Database 1110." Like the listening component, students independently study words from the general academic list that the instructor assigns (usually 50 words a week) and are tested on a number of these words weekly.

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By the end of this course, students will acquire the following skills at varying levels. Students should be able to:
- Recognize and use basic academic words in English
- Process general academic discourse presented aurally
- Identify the locations, functions, and features of the standard elements of essay introduction paragraphs (i.e., hook, topic statements, general statements and thesis statement) and apply this knowledge to write suitable introduction paragraphs for short academic essays
- Identify the locations, functions, and features of the standard elements of body paragraphs (i.e., topic sentence, supporting sentences, detail sentences, concluding sentence) and apply this knowledge to write suitable body paragraphs for short academic essays
- Identify the locations, functions, and features of the standard elements of conclusion paragraphs (i.e., summary of main points, final statement) and apply this knowledge to write suitable conclusion paragraphs for short academic essays
- Recognize basic methods of maintaining the unity (e.g., definitions) and coherence (e.g., transitional words) of ideas in short academic essays, and apply this knowledge to writing.
- Recall and apply basic conventions (e.g., punctuation) when formatting short academic essays
- Understand basic paraphrasing techniques (e.g., using synonyms, changing structure) to integrate

information from external sources, recognize basic citation conventions, and utilize this knowledge to avoid plagiarism
- Understand the writing process and utilize it for drafting and editing to produce short academic essays
- Combine knowledge of (i) the structure of a short academic essay, with allowances made for rhetorical style such as problem-solution and argumentation, and (ii) the writing process, and apply this knowledge to produce a short academic essay of at least 300 words

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In-class activities are related to the contents of the textbook. Though there may be some adjustments in certain cases, the schedule of this course is as follows:

Chapter 1 Introduction to Academic Writing
Chapter 2 Paragraphs & Topic Sentences
Chapter 3 Supporting Sentences
Chapter 4 Paragraph Writing
Chapter 5 Writing Process
Chapter 6 Introduction Paragraph
Chapter 7 Conclusion Paragraph
Chapter 8 Citations & Paraphrase
Chapter 9 Essay Structure
Chapter 10 Essay Outline
Chapter 11 Definitions, Opinions, Facts, & Format
Chapter 12 Peer Review
Chapter 13 Revising & Documenting
Chapter 14 Proofreading & Reflecting
Feedback

Important: Some instructors may cover more than one chapter in one week for better learning outcomes in the whole semester. Each instructor decides whether or not the class conducts the final examination in the test week. Students should confirm the class policy from their instructors.

*This class conducts the final examination in the test week.

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1. Vocabulary assessments 10%

2. Listening assessments 30%
*Students must pass at least eight out of 13 learning units (Units 1-12 and TOEFL ITP Sample Test Unit) of the online materials in order to receive credit for this course.
The score for the listening assessments is determined by performance on four in-class assessments and the study record of the online materials (Units 1-12 and TOEFL ITP Sample Test Unit).

3. Writing assignments 60%
*Scores for writing assignments may include in-class writing tasks and participation in class activities as well as a term paper.
*Students must complete various writing assignments, including an essay of at least 300 words in order to receive credit for this course. Note that plagiarism must be avoided.

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Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Kyoto University   EGAP Writing 1: Academic Essays_2025 Edition
   Students are requested to download the PDF file from the URL. http://hdl.handle.net/2433/290378

          ISBN:978-4-327-45221-6

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Students are required to study academic vocabulary from the designated part (EGAP vocabulary) of the "Kyoto University Vocabulary Database 1110" outside of class, and regularly take vocabulary assessments in class.

Students are also required to study the online listening materials outside of class through the GORILLA system. The materials for this course are as follows:

   KU Academic Listening (A) Units 1-12 (required)
   TOEFL ITP Sample Test Unit (required)
   KU Can-Do Self-Assessment (optional)
   Extra practice for further study (optional)

Students must complete each unit by the assigned deadline. If students miss the deadline for a certain unit, the unit will not be evaluated as a passed unit.

For details such as the deadlines and the in-class assessment schedule, please see the handout distributed in class and the information posted on the GORILLA system.

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Students are advised to save the textbook PDF file in their digital devices.
If they want a printed version, they can print the file on a printer at home or a nearby shop, purchase a book-binder (less than 200 yen) at the Univ. Co-op shop in the Yoshida-minami Campus or the Clock-tower, and use a binding-machine there for no extra charge.

Students may benefit from accessing the website offered by the Division of English Language Education (DELE), i-ARRC, Kyoto University. The website provides useful information to support students in learning and using English autonomously.
JP:https://www.i-arrc.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/english_jp
EN:https://www.i-arrc.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/english

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