

Reflective Report – Academic Skills Module

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to reflect on my learning experience during the Academic Skills module. This reflection will cover my personal strengths, the areas where I need to improve, and the overall impact of the module on both my academic and personal development. I will also discuss specific tasks and activities, including Task 1, Task 2, and classroom discussions, in order to show how they contributed to my progress. Writing this reflective report gives me an opportunity to evaluate how I have grown as a learner and to identify strategies that will help me to continue improving in the future.

Strengths

One of the main strengths I have discovered about myself through this module is my ability to engage actively in classroom activities and discussions. I noticed that I am not afraid to ask questions or to contribute my ideas, even when I am unsure if they are completely correct. This willingness to participate has helped me to gain a deeper understanding of the topics we covered. Another strength is my growing ability to conduct independent research. When completing both Task 1 and Task 2, I was able to locate relevant sources, read critically, and select useful information to support my work.

In addition, I have realised that I am becoming more confident in structuring my writing. Before starting the module, I often struggled with how to organise my essays clearly, but now I feel that I can produce work with a logical flow of introduction, main body, and conclusion. Finally, I consider time management to be one of my positive qualities. Although I sometimes face challenges, I generally managed to complete tasks by their deadlines without feeling too overwhelmed.

Areas for Improvement

While I have made progress, I am also aware of several areas that need further improvement. One key weakness is my academic writing style. At times, I still use informal language or personal opinions without enough academic evidence. I need to focus on developing a more formal tone and learning how to integrate references smoothly into my work. Another area for improvement is proofreading. I sometimes submit assignments without carefully checking grammar and spelling mistakes, which reduces the overall quality of my work.

Critical thinking is another skill I need to strengthen. Although I can summarise information from sources, I find it harder to analyse arguments deeply or to compare different perspectives. Developing this skill will not only improve my writing but also help me to engage with readings more effectively. Finally, I need to improve my confidence in presentations. I tend to become nervous when speaking in front of the class, and this affects my delivery. Practicing more and preparing better in advance will help me overcome this difficulty.

Impact on Academic and Personal Development

The Academic Skills module has had a positive impact on both my academic journey and my personal development. Academically, it has given me a clearer understanding of what is expected at university level. I now understand the importance of referencing correctly, avoiding plagiarism, and supporting arguments with reliable sources. These are skills that I will use in every future assignment.

On a personal level, the module has taught me resilience and self-discipline. There were times when I felt challenged by the workload or by difficult readings, but completing the tasks helped me to build confidence in my abilities. The process of reflecting on my strengths and weaknesses also made me more self-aware. I now know that mistakes are part of the learning process, and I see challenges as opportunities for growth rather than failures.

Reflection on Tasks and Activities

Task 1 required me to demonstrate my understanding of academic conventions and to apply them in a written assignment. At first, I found referencing to be confusing, especially learning how to cite correctly in the required style. However, after practice and feedback from my tutor, I was able to improve. Task 1 showed me the importance of accuracy and attention to detail, and I realised that even small errors in referencing can affect the credibility of my work.

Task 2 was more demanding, as it involved independent research and critical thinking. I had to identify relevant sources, read them carefully, and then present my own argument supported by evidence. Although it was challenging, I enjoyed this task because it pushed me to go beyond simply summarising information. I learned how to connect different ideas and to explain why they were relevant to my topic. Task 2 helped me to feel more confident about writing longer assignments and to understand how research can strengthen my arguments.

Class activities and discussions also played a major role in my development. Working in groups allowed me to hear different perspectives and to realise that there are multiple ways of approaching the same problem. This helped me to think more creatively and to

become a better listener. Classroom discussions encouraged me to express my thoughts more clearly, while also respecting the opinions of others.

Overall, these tasks and activities reinforced the importance of participation and collaboration. I realised that learning is not only about individual effort but also about engaging with others, sharing ideas, and building knowledge together.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this reflective report has given me the opportunity to evaluate my progress during the Academic Skills module. I have identified strengths such as active participation, research skills, and time management, as well as areas for improvement including academic writing style, proofreading, critical thinking, and presentation skills. The module has had a significant impact on both my academic and personal development by helping me to build confidence, resilience, and self-awareness.

Looking ahead, I plan to continue improving by practicing academic writing, seeking feedback from tutors, and dedicating more time to proofreading my work. I also aim to develop my critical thinking skills by questioning sources more deeply and comparing different arguments. Finally, I will work on becoming more confident in presentations by practicing regularly and preparing thoroughly. Overall, the Academic Skills module has been a valuable foundation for my future studies, and I feel better prepared to face the challenges of university life.