

Reflective Report – Academic Skills Module.

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Module Code & Title: LCLM4001_LON Academic Skills

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Assignment Title: Task 3: Reflective Report

Date: 22 April 2025

This is a reflective report that will reflect on what I have learned as well as my academic growth and experience in the Academic Skills module. My purpose for this report is to reflect on my past work, to be more specific I'm referring to task 1,2 those tasks included Note taking, time management strategies, summarizing skills and much more that has helped me throughout my university studies. I have also had class exercises and independent work which I have done quite a lot, as I believe practice makes perfect. Reflecting is a necessary step to identify where I need more improvement and where I have improved. I have become more aware of my strengths and weakness thanks to my Academic Skills class experience.

During many of my Academic skills module classes I have spent several hours discussing "References" . We discussed different styles of referencing like Harvard and APA, and how to use them correctly. At firstly, I found it very complicated and confusing mainly because of the multiple steps it had, however I have spent countless of hours studying home learning about references according to the (Easy Referencing Guide, 2022) Its very important to reference for many reasons like avoiding pilgrims as well as other academic miscount, quite soon I began to develop an understanding of referencing as well as I realized how important it is especially for university students like me. The process of me practicing and learning became easier when I started to focus more on the referencing Harvard style which my university requires.

At the beginning of my module, I had a difficult experience with referencing and paraphrasing. My main struggle with paraphrasing was not being able to keep the correct structure since I found it confusing on how to change a sentence without changing the whole meaning and maintaining academic structure as well as I had to be very careful with my paraphrasing to avoid pilgrims. I found paraphrasing quite challenging since it involves rules and small details to pay attention to. However on the brighter side I can proudly say I have improved well, I have learned in this Academic Skills course that certain things can become challenging before they become easy, I have felt anxious about obstacles that can occur due to me not being able to understand certain things like the difference between The Cornell note taking method and The Mapping Method. According to (Hoffmann,2022) there are four main note taking techniques, Linear Notes, Tabular Notes, Mind Map (Diagram/Mapping Notes) and diagrammatic Notes. I have struggled to memorize these note techniques since I have never taken notes in other techniques other than the traditional Linear notes method. Even though with enough repetition I have become more confident in memorizing and understanding the difference between all those notes named above, I to this day rely on linear notes. However, I am seeking more general knowledge of different types of notes since I do believe I need to improve in that area mainly so I can be confident enough to say I know all the note taking techniques. I have also experienced pressure to a small degree due to the fact I had to be very careful to avoid pilgrims. However, I am very grateful for my note taking in class which has helped me a significant amount and thanks to videos like (Academic English UK, 2021), I was able to better understand the concept of paraphrasing. Throughout this process I have gained confidence in my writing, specifically in my academic writing. Perhaps it's due to the fact I have always enjoyed writing. This brings me to my next topic (BBC Learning English, 2025) Academic writing comes with few rules such as not using informal words. I have been surprised how much I have learned about proper grammar, practically how I've been using the wrong grammar, therefore I'm very grateful for the progress I've made with my academic writing as not only has it helped me with this module but as well as my personal goals to speak English more fluently and correctly. All of these experiences I had uncovered the

importance of the skills I'm developing in this module I have learned to be more precise with my work reason being to that would be referencing. The smallest error in my

grammatical structure can be detrimental to my work. As I started to pay more attention to my writing and spelling. I have realized that thanks to the struggle I had with referencing it has in fact enhanced my overall precision. Not only did I develop more precision but also more confidence. I have developed a clear knowledge of my module. My confidence developed from the results of studying extensive hours and even contributing to class conversations. I recall exchanging a conversation with my classmates that recommended to me to study extra hours at home, I'm very grateful for that advice since studying home gave me more understanding of my assignments and overall, the academic skills that are crucial for my development in university I have also completed many quizzes and exercises that were sent to me from my lecturer.

In conclusion, this module has helped me with my development in my academic skills and how to apply them accordingly which is necessary for my growth in university. Although I faced obstacles for example not being able to understand basics of this course (academic skills module) I managed to conquer them by giving the required time for my studies and continuously paying attention to what my lecturer is saying therefore I have gained academic skills in my referencing , academic writing and a deeper insight to the academic field. I believe I have gained a good understanding and enough courage to move forward with my studies and obtain my bachelors degree. Until then I will further do my best in class, continue with my note taking and having my attention focused on my learning.

REFERENCE LIST

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