



Module: Academic Skills

Module Lead: Sylvia Hoffmann

Assignment Title: Academic Skills

Task 3: Reflective Report

Name: Kouassi Ange Daniel KOMENAN

Student ID: 2323466

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Academic Skills Development	3
3. Finding Information / Research Skills	4
4. Application of Skills	4
5. Reflection on Learning	5
6. Conclusion	6
7. References.....	7

1. Introduction

This reflective report is going to analyze how my academic abilities improved throughout the 12 weeks of the Academic Development course. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the development of three key academic skills: Academic writing, note-taking, searching and finding information, and research skills. That is, every skill will be thoroughly investigated, emphasizing the strategies that I use and the implications of these skills on my general academic performance. Not only that, but also an explanation of why those particular academic competencies have been chosen will be made clear, and the importance of utilizing those skills in higher education and thereafter will be highlighted thereby. Through thinking back on my quest to develop my skills and allowing the report to be a roadmap and share lessons about transformative learning experiences during the Academic Skills module.

2. Academic Skills Development

I had hands-on participation in many class activities that were aimed at improving the level of academic writing during the Academic Skills module. The academic writing workshop that was class-based was another activity that helped me readjust my new normal. We looked at the basics of academic writing, such as , paragraph structure, and citation practices. Also, reading the assigned literature and listening to the peer-review sessions helped me to see my writing in a different light, pinpointing longer and more difficult sentences and offering me hints as to how to fix them. Through the class activities, I have been able to substantially improve my academic writing skills performance. It has been a marvelous experience because I have learned to adhere to the academic norms of writing more and this has made it possible for me to signify my ideas effectively and more persuasively in books (Baresh, 2022). In addition, the constructive feedback earned not only from my lecturer but also from myself has been extremely useful in uncovering my strengths, which has undoubtedly helped to spur my constant development of writing competence.

3. Finding Information / Research Skills

During this Academic Skills module, I practice research skills in the spirit of the different exercises. An essential point about the advanced research methodology was evident when I conducted the research project. Within this project, I employed various research systems methodically such as database search, literature reviews, and citation analysis in an attempt to collect high-quality scholarly documents and primary data. The Improvement of my research methodology has had a lot of influence on my academic trip and development. Through incorporating rational methods of research, I have been able to vary into scholastic writings and access up-to-date information which has been instrumental in the caliber of my academic papers. On the other hand, there is also the fact that evaluating critically the sources has provoked in me a more perceptive eye about the difference between those with high-quality information and those with dubious information, thus deepening my research approach.

Apart from these, my increased research abilities and research intelligence acquired in the course have provided me with practical skills that I can employ in information navigation and information management academically. For example, I can do my literature by reading books and other information that are related to the topic. Another example is when I analyze and compare different views of scholars in the field. All of these activities are good preparation for writing my report work. On the whole, the effect of quality research techniques consequently permeates the boundaries of the separate Academic Skills module and has a long-lasting effect on my academic route as well as a subsistence drive to continuous research endeavors and intellectual development.

4. Application of Skills

I found myself recycling the techniques learned during writing exercises frequently in other tasks assigned to us. As, for example, the case bound my knowledge of academic writing patterns to help me build the perfect report with scholarly evidence. This involved crafting a well-defined thesis statement, developing the ideas in a logical way where paragraphs were built upon, sourcing the work, and becoming conversant with how to cite and reference appropriately (Mulryan-Kyne, 2021). Using academic writing experience in

exercises yielded satisfactory results which can be confirmed by a preferential attitude of teachers and higher-grade scores. After the application of what was being learned in the class, primarily, effective paragraphing and citation techniques, I formed reports that exposed the level of clarity, coherence, and depth of the analyses utilized in assessing the topics concerned.

The module was structured to enable positive homework skills like notetaking, which helped in other kinds of academic assignments, such as classes, discussions, and group tasks. Through employing strategies like the Diagram note taking and illustrations, I illustrated seminal points and gained insight profoundly, which led to a deep understanding and memory cape of instructional material. The usefulness of this skill was demonstrated in my adeptness at chunking as well as reviewing the learned data and approaching the exam solidly. Throughout the course, I learned that by keeping my notes well organized (youngsters say 'systematically') including visual representation, I was able to review and revise topics with more clarity and ease. On top of this, the implementation of active listening strategies into lectures provides more meaningful engagement with lecture materials, leading to an in-depth understanding and skills mastery.

5. Reflection on Learning

Evaluating the strides made in academic writing, note-taking, and research skills while studying in the Academic Skills module, I feel proud to state that I have come a long way. The careful learning process that was combined with numerous problem-solving exercises and encouraging constructive feedback from my lecturer made my academic results more and more remarkable. I have had easy access to the course material which is substantial for my academic industries. Through individual lectures and group or ensemble activities, I have got to self-reflect my strengths and attain a better understanding of the areas that I need to work on. Using self-discovery and peer evaluation, I have learned my learning style and preferences more deeply, and it enabled me the freedom to adapt myself precisely and get my task done (Campbell, 2023). The academic skills module has been a transformative journey to enhance my skills with enough confidence to conquer academics and other career paths (Van Ha and Murray,

2021). I feel it's a privilege to obtain some necessary tools that will firmly set me on a way to a respectable future job and studies.

6. Conclusion

As for the Academic Skills module, it has proven to be one of the biggest contributors to my personal growth as a knowledgeable and skillful individual. Having academic skills planted in a better way and with interesting activities, I have gained crucial skills that are necessary for higher education and success in the future. My achievements include collecting sufficient notes, locating relevant resources, and, finally mastering writing skills. These greens have been required in the different coursework tasks, and they have helped to improve my grades and to in-depth and yammer knowledge of course content. Moreover, the reflective learning that has been employed allows me to have an insight on my strengths and shortcomings which always makes me work on the improvement of my progress. Looking back at the long route the learning process has offered me, the changes in my personality and my outlook on the issues are the things that impress me. I have progressed from enhancing my skills to learning how to take effective notes and throughout the course, each lesson has been the instrument of my transformation as a student. In addition to that, the fact that I succeeded in creating my research project and overcoming obstacles. Having the opportunity to receive guidance through learning materials and feedback from my lecturer are the milestones that gave me self-confidence and improved my academic performance.

7. References

- Baresh, E.F., 2022. DEVELOPING LIBYAN UNDERGRADUATES' WRITING SKILLS THROUGH REFLECTIVE JOURNALING: A CRITICAL LITERATURE REVIEW. *Journal of English Language Teaching and Learning*, 3(1), pp.27-35.
- Campbell, K.A., Orr, E., Durepos, P., Nguyen, L., Li, L., Whitmore, C., Gehrke, P., Graham, L. and Jack, S.M., 2021. Reflexive thematic analysis for applied qualitative health research. *The Qualitative Report*, 26(6), pp.2011-2028.
- Farrokhnia, M., Banihashem, S.K., Noroozi, O. and Wals, A., 2023. A SWOT analysis of ChatGPT: Implications for educational practice and research. *Innovations in Education and Teaching International*, pp.1-15.
- Mulryan-Kyne, C., 2021. Supporting reflection and reflective practice in an initial teacher education program: An exploratory study. *European Journal of Teacher Education*, 44(4), pp.502-519.
- Van Ha, X. and Murray, J.C., 2021. The impact of a professional development program on EFL teachers' beliefs about corrective feedback. *System*, 96, p.102405.
- Logo UWTSD: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Wales_Trinity_Saint_David (access on 01/05/2024)