

Diagnostic - How confident are you about your academic writing ability?

On a scale of 1 – 5, where 1 = little or no confidence and 5 = very confident score the following statements about your academic writing ability.

| Question                                                                                                               | Score |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. I have good knowledge and understanding of the types of written assignments I will be required to do at University. |       |
| 2. I know what university tutors are looking for in written assignments.                                               |       |
| 3. I am familiar with university marking criteria and can address these areas in my writing.                           |       |
| 4. I can differentiate between A level/Tertiary level and university assessment levels and criteria.                   |       |
| 5. I can start an assignment.                                                                                          |       |
| 6. I have a good knowledge of how to achieve a high mark at university for my written assignment work.                 |       |
| 7. I can write an essay.                                                                                               |       |
| 8. I can analyse and deconstruct an assignment question.                                                               |       |
| 9. I can structure an essay.                                                                                           |       |
| 10. I can write an effective introduction and know what elements it should contain.                                    |       |
| 11. I know what a thesis statement is.                                                                                 |       |
| 12. I can write a thesis statement.                                                                                    |       |
| 13. I can produce a logical and coherent flow of ideas in my writing.                                                  |       |
| 14. I can write accurately using correct grammar and punctuation.                                                      |       |
| 15. I can cite sources in my essay and reference accurately.                                                           |       |
| 16. I can develop a thorough, reasoned argument in my essay.                                                           |       |
| 17. I can incorporate sources in my writing to support my argument in my essay.                                        |       |
| 18. I can use an appropriate style.                                                                                    |       |
| 19. I can write an effective conclusion and know what elements to include.                                             |       |
| 20. I can edit and proof read my work effectively.                                                                     |       |
| My score                                                                                                               |       |

(Source: Hopkins and Reid, 2018: Chapter One: Getting Started on your Essay)