

Skills and personal qualities that contribute to the development of academic writing.

There are many factors and skills a student must take into consideration while ensuring they use effective study skills. Many authors have researched these skills to help provide students with support and strategies while beginning their studies and education. During this presentation we will look at some of these skills; time management, referencing and plagiarism and critical thinking, looking at a variety of strategies for each aspect to help students study effectively.

Time Management

Cottrell (2019) shares 10 steps to effective time management in her book 'The Study Handbook'. She looks at ways to share your time out to ensure significant study time for the level of learning needed for higher education courses. Moore (2010) discusses three of the biggest issues students may face while studying and planning their time effectively; planning, procrastination and perfectionism. Not having a plan can often be a downfall to effective studying. A clear path can help manage study time to help ensure students can meet assignment deadlines. Managing procrastination and distraction can be difficult, avoiding tasks decreasing the time students have to complete tasks.

Referencing and Plagiarism

Students face challenges when it comes to paraphrasing appropriately often leading them to commit plagiarism within their work, according to Kettel, R.P. & DeFauw, D.L (2018) in their article "Paraphrase Without Plagiarism: Use RRLC". Using resources such as websites like 'Cite them Right' (no date) helps students to reference their work correctly. Correct referencing can show a student's understanding of a subject while also avoiding plagiarism. Darr (2019) states that effective paraphrasing can help avoid any accidental plagiarism. Other than being told to put it in your own words, there is not clear guidelines established.

Critical Thinking

Some key factors an employer would look for are critical thinking, critical analysis and problem solving. Making critical thinking an essential skill needed while studying, Cottrell (2017). There are many aspects to consider while becoming a critical thinker according to Eales-Reynolds, L.-J (2009). Harber (2020) states critical thinking is part of the 'Four Cs'; critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity. All four aspects overlap each other to help problem solve and complete tasks effectively.

To conclude, each author states the importance of each aspect in order to achieve effective studying. While putting all these aspects into play can provide effective study for students while carrying out their higher education.



Reference list:

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