

AE Academic English UK

Academic Writing

Coherence

EXAMPLE



Copyright: These materials are photocopyable but we would appreciate it if all logos and web addresses were left on materials. Thank you.

Introduction to Academic Writing

EXAMPLE

1. Who is it for?

This worksheet as part of a series of lessons is designed for international students who are aiming to study in a university where English is the medium of instruction. No prior knowledge of academic writing is required, but the ability to read instructions will be helpful.

2. How long will it take to complete the worksheet?

Depending on the level of the student, their knowledge of academic English, and prior subject knowledge, this lesson would expect to take 60-90 minutes to complete.

3. What is academic writing?

Academic writing is a particular writing style that is seen in academic papers and students' assignments. It includes certain textual and grammatical features; it contains a logical structure, and it involves using a more formal register than everyday communication.

4. What features of academic writing will this worksheet cover?

This worksheet will cover coherence.

5. What context will be used to practice academic writing?

The topic is 'global issues' and is connected to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are 17 global goals that aim to create a better world for everyone by ending poverty and protecting the planet. Each lesson in the series contains the vocabulary from one or two SDGs; with this worksheet covering SDG13.

6. How to use this worksheet.

Students can use this independently or teachers can use it with their classes in either guided lessons or in a workshop type scenario.

Step 1: Look at the link at the beginning of each lesson for context.

Step 2: Look up the vocabulary in the 'vocabulary box' before completing the tasks.

Step 3: Read about the feature of academic writing for that lesson (Task 1).

Step 4: Work through each task reading the instructions carefully and checking the answers after each exercise by clicking on the links provided.

Step 5: Once the lesson is complete, move on to the next academic writing worksheet in our series, and apply what you have learnt to your writing.

Useful links for checking vocabulary

<https://www.merriam-webster.com>

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org>

<https://www.ldoceonline.com>

Coherence EXAMPLE

Context: SDG13: “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” (United Nations, 2023).

Links: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>

Vocabulary list:

Look up these words and phrases before you start the tasks.

SDG13									
climate change	displaced	migration	natural habitat	detrimental	heatwave	iceberg			
heat stroke	flooding	wildfire	scarcity	hurricane	elevate	intact			
extinction	polar caps	glaciers	coral reef	biodiversity	organism	escalate			

Task 1

Read the information about coherence before completing the following tasks.

Coherence refers to the way that ideas flow within a piece of writing to achieve overall unity. A coherent passage is well organised, is easy to follow and guides the reader’s understanding. Good coherence is achieved at micro and macro levels.		
Sentence Level		
Parallel structures:	See parallel lesson.	Climate change not only puts pressure on the planet, but also on societies and economies.
Given/new pattern:	Sentences usually start with given information and then move on to new information .	Although climate change affects all societies, it is the poorest who suffer the most. People in low-income countries are more likely to be displaced by weather-related disasters than those in wealthy countries.
Paragraph Level		
Topic sentences:	This is usually the first sentence, and its function is to introduce the main idea of the paragraph.	Climate change has both environmental and economic impacts.
Supporting sentences:	These sentences support the idea introduced in the topic sentences and can include explanations and examples.	Firstly, climate change is having an impact on migration patterns. With the rise in global temperatures, many species are leaving their natural habitats for more acceptable environments.
Transitions words:	These words connect ideas and include words like: firstly, moreover, furthermore, in addition and however.	Secondly, climate change is influencing the world’s forests.
Concluding sentences (optional):	This is usually the final sentence in a paragraph and its function is to summarise the main idea.	In short, climate leaders, scientific experts and policy makers need to lead the way in implementing solutions that keep the planet’s natural systems intact.

Task 2

Reorder the information on [redacted] so that it flows logically.

i.	[redacted], more frequent heatwaves appear,	
ii.	[redacted] could include providing early [redacted] for all [redacted].	
iii.	[redacted] which refers to the increase in global [redacted], can have a [redacted] on human health.	
iv.	but the poor air quality also leads to [redacted] and infectious diseases.	
v.	which pose a [redacted] to the health of the nation.	
vi.	Not only is there an increased risk of heat-[redacted] such as [redacted] heat exhaustion,	

⇒ *Now check your answers here.*

Task 3

Look at the [redacted] from task 2 again and highlight the topic in blue and the controlling idea red and then complete the table with an [redacted] of each one.

[redacted], which refers to the increase in [redacted], has a [redacted] on human's health.	
Topic	[redacted]
Controlling idea	[redacted]

⇒ *Now check your answers here.*

Task 4

Write a topic sentence for each of the [redacted], making sure you include a topic and a [redacted]

i.	[redacted]
One type of [redacted] that poses a threat is that of [redacted]. This not only causes significant damage to property but can also [redacted]. Another type of [redacted] that is detrimental to communities is [redacted]. This has a considerable effect on agriculture, which leads to food insecurity, and the supply of water, [redacted]. A further [redacted] that is harmful is [redacted]. This affects the quality of the air causing a range of health-related problems as well as destruction to people's homes. [redacted]. These destroy [redacted] and property, which leads to the displacement of vulnerable people. To sum up, these extreme weather [redacted] to people's lives and [redacted] are needed urgently to minimise their impact.	
ii.	[redacted]
[redacted]. As the temperature increases, the [redacted], which leads to the volume of the water rising. Another [redacted] polar caps and glaciers. [redacted] whereas the latter form on land and break off into the [redacted], both of which cause the [redacted]. This rise in sea levels effects [redacted] significantly as	

these [redacted], which in turn threatens [redacted]. In short, adaption measures that protect the most vulnerable regions need to be put in place as a [redacted].

iii.

Firstly, [redacted]. Corals can become stressed by changes such as temperature and light, and when this happens, they [redacted], causing the [redacted]. This process, [redacted] can lead to diseases or even death. Secondly, changing climate conditions are creating new ways for the introduction and [redacted]. These organisms have a negative effect on the [redacted] as they damage habitats, spread new diseases and [redacted]. In summary, an observational approach is needed to [redacted] and detect and identify new [redacted].

⇒ *Now compare your answers with the model answers here.*

Task 5

Look back at the paragraphs in task 4 and answer the following questions.

i.	Which words organise the ideas?	
	Paragraph 1	
	Paragraph 2	
	Paragraph 3	
ii.	[redacted]	
	Paragraph 1	
	Paragraph 2	
	Paragraph 3	
iii.	Which words connect the [redacted]	
	Paragraph 1	
	Paragraph 2	
	Paragraph 3	

⇒ *Now check your answers here.*

Task 6

Complete the table with other language that could be used to connect ideas.

i.	[redacted]	
ii.	Words to introduce explanations and examples.	
iii.	[redacted]	

⇒ *Now check your answers here.*

Task 7

Identify [redacted] in the following paragraph. Highlight the [redacted] in blue and the [redacted] in green.

Climate change is a [redacted] in various ways. Firstly, [redacted] affect coral reef [redacted] considerably. Corals can become stressed by changes such as [redacted], and when this happens, [redacted], causing the [redacted] to turn white. This process, known as [redacted], can lead to diseases or even [redacted]. Secondly, [redacted] are creating new ways for the [redacted]. These organisms have a negative effect on the [redacted] as they damage habitats, spread [redacted] and cause [redacted]. In summary, an observational approach is needed to monitor ecosystems, and detect and identify new [redacted].

⇒ *Now check your answer here.*

Task 8

Read the following topic sentence and write a paragraph of between 100-150 words. Use the internet to find two-three points to write about and try to use a coherent structure.

i. [Climate change presents](#) [redacted].

⇒ *Now compare your answer with the model answer here.*

Task 9

Conduct some research on [redacted] and write a paragraph of between 100-150 words taking great care with coherence.

Task 10

Use the following checklist to assess your paragraph.

	Topic Sentence	Yes	No
i.	Have you included?		
ii.			
iii.	Controlling idea?		
	Supporting Sentences		
iv.			
v.	Example?		
vi.			
	Concluding Sentence		
vii.	Linking word?		
viii.	Parallelism?		
ix.			

Bibliography

Greenpeace (nd). *What are the effects of climate change on biodiversity?* Available at:

<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/challenges/wildlife-and-biodiversity/climate-change-biodiversity/>

(Accessed: 18 February 2024).

McKeever, A (2021). *Why climate change is still the greatest threat to human health.* Available at:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/why-climate-change-is-still-the-greatest-threat-to-human-health> (Accessed: 18 February 2024).

NASA (nd). *Extreme weather and climate change.* Available at: <https://climate.nasa.gov/extreme-weather/>

(Accessed: 18 February 2024).

National Geographic (2023). *The influence of climate change on extreme environmental events.* Available at:

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/influence-climate-change-extreme-environmental-events/>

(Accessed: 18 February 2024).

Nunez, C (2023). *Sea levels are rising at an extraordinary pace. Here's what to know.* Available at:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/sea-level-rise-1> (Accessed: 19 February 2024).

The Royal Society (nd). *How does climate change affect biodiversity?* Available at:

<https://royalsociety.org/news-resources/projects/biodiversity/climate-change-and-biodiversity/> (Accessed: 22 February 2024).

United Nations (2023). *Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.* Available at:

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13> (Accessed: 19 February 2024).

World Health Organisation (2023). *Climate change.* Available at: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health>

(Accessed: 17 February 2024).

Coherence **ANSWERS**

Task 2

Reorder the information on 'temperature rise' so that it flows logically.

i.	As temperatures rise, more frequent heatwaves appear,	Temperature rise, which refers to the increase in global average temperatures, can have a detrimental effect on human health.
ii.	Short-term measures could include providing early warning systems for all vulnerable people.	As temperatures rise, more frequent heatwaves appear,

ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...

www.academic-englishuk.com