

Editing Efficiently in Academic Writing for ESL Academic Writers

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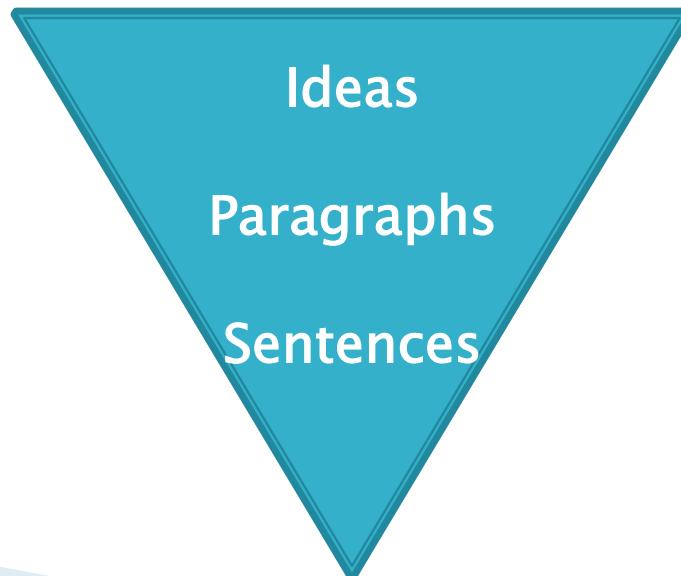
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It is time to edit!

Critical steps to editing any piece of academic work:

- big picture (ideas),
- structure (paragraphs),
- details (grammar, spelling, and words usage)



Goodson, Patricia. (2012).
Becoming an Academic Writer: 50
Exercise for Paced, Productive,
and Powerful Writing. SAGE.

Level I: Checking Ideas

- answering the research question(s)
- discussion with peers/colleagues
- evaluate articles from your academic friends
- consulting with professors/mentors/editors

Level II: Working on Paragraphs

**transition + one key idea +
development of key idea**

- Exercise: key sentences practice
 - order
 - logic

Level III: Editing sentences

Check your text for the following:

- of
- that/which
- this/that/these/those
- is/are/was/were/will be
- and/as well as/too/or
- a/an/the
- useless words
- subject-verb agreement

Level III: Editing Sentences

Resources for editing at the sentence-level:

- thesaurus

<http://www.visualthesaurus.com/>

- word placement

<https://www.grammarly.com>

- build up your own academic dictionary

Practical Strategies

Long-term practices:

- building up academic vocabulary
- polishing the grammar
- copy writing
- copy editing
- getting feedback regularly (4 stages)

Promoting Outstanding Writing for Excellence in Research
~ P.O.W.E.R.

Useful strategies to maximize writing productivity

Editing Stages	Ideas	Flow & Organization	Formatting APA, MLA, or CMS	Grammar, Word Choice
1 st round self-editing	X	X	X	X
Peer-editing	X	?	?	?
Expert	X	X	?	?
Professional Service	?	X	X	X
Final self-editing	X	X	X	X

The challenges for ESL academic writers

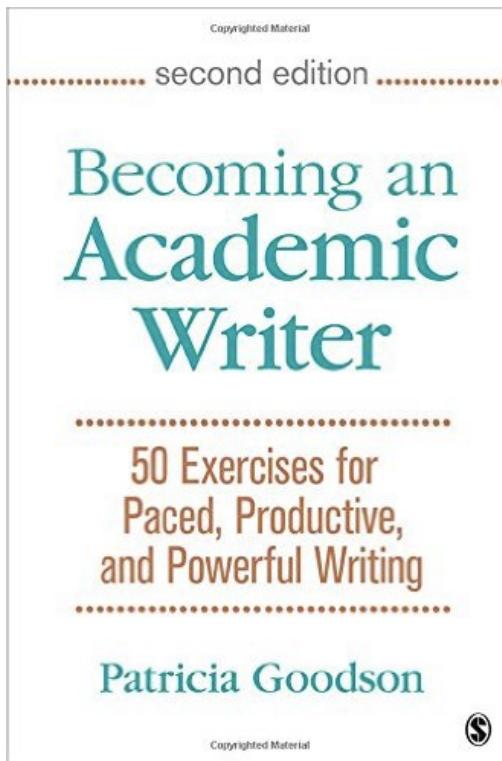
- language limitations
- cultural differences
- increased hours spent on writing
- increased emotional stress



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Questions, Comments, Concerns?



Thank you!

*Qian Ji & Leigh Szucs
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