

Academic Skills Self-Assessment: Am I writing in an academic style?

Below are listed key features of academic writing. Try taking an extract of an assignment you are writing and assessing it according to these features. Alternatively, try exchanging extracts with a fellow student and peer assessing each other's work.

Is this writing...?	Yes/No?	Example
Objective rather than subjective.		
Written in the third person.		
Written in formal English using correct grammar		
Critical and analytical (not just descriptive)		
Written in tentative language		
Does this writing...?	Yes/No?	Example
Convey ideas with authority		
Demonstrate understanding of complex issues		
Follow logical structure		
Are the sources..?	Yes/No?	Example
Well researched		
Explicitly acknowledged		
Referenced according to agreed convention		

If you have identified need for improvement in certain areas or do not fully understand key features of academic writing, please refer to sources provided on 'writing style' section of Academic Skills Web space.

