

Academic Writing Style

To book an individual or a group drop-in session, please visit the Compass App.

1. Look at the two sources on the topic of academic writing in British Higher Education. Which one is likely to demonstrate features of academic writing style? Give reasons.

Source 1	Agaoglu, A. (2013, April 19). Academic writing: why no 'me' in PhD? T				
	Guardian. Retrieved from https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-				
	network/blog/2013/apr/19/academic-writing-first-person-singular				
Source 2	Singh, M.K.M. (2017). International EFL/ESL Master Students' Adaptation				
	Strategies for Academic Writing Practices at Tertiary Level. Journal of				
	International Students, 7(3), pp. 620-643. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.570025				

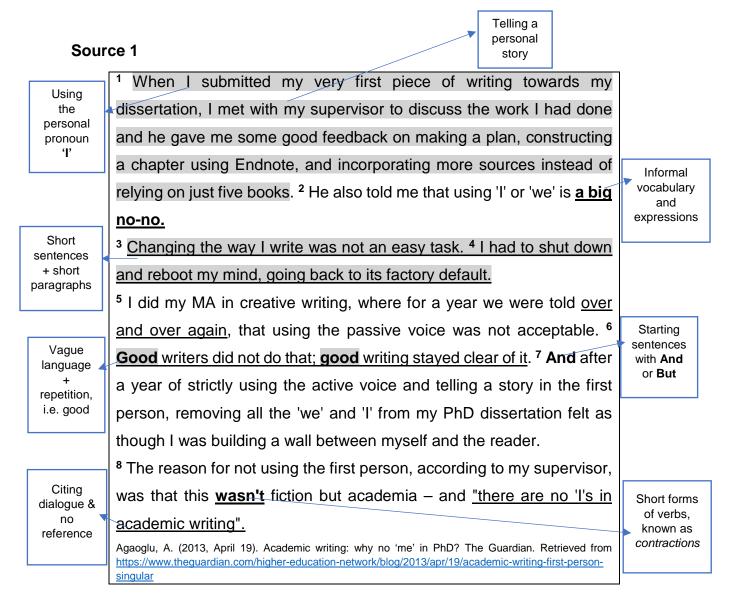
Answer: Source 2. It is an academic journal article so it will demonstrate features of academic writing style.

2. Look at a sample analysis of the style in the **academic source**. Think about the **academic writing style features** you need to improve.

Source 2		Being specific			structure with the	
	¹ In the context of Master progra	pronoun ' there'				
Impersonal structure with the pronoun 'it'	consensus among scholars, re	Formal				
	writing is an essential component for many coursework					
	ssessments and it is critical that graduate students continuously				specific vocabulary	
	develop their academic writin					
Referring to sources when paraphrasing	2005; Wasłey, 2008).				Passive voice, i.e. <i>is related</i>	
	² Currently, academic writing is					
	sense of self and identity. ³ In fact, writing aids in both developing and					
Avoiding very short sentences and paragraphs	demonstrating critical-thinking skills, and has been categorized as, "the exterior sign of an interior thinking process" (Bean, 1996, p. 20).				sources when citing	
						⁴ As a result of this, <u>new</u>
	themselves as part of a particular academic community, and without					
	Modal verb, i.e. 'will' + full form of verb	this identity formation, they will not be able to participate of			te or acquire	Noun phrase in the
academic literacies skills linked to academic success.				Subject, i.e. adj . + noun+		
Singh, M.K.M. (2017). International EF Academic Writing Practices at Tertiary Lo 643. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.570025				•	head noun	



3. Look at a sample analysis of the style in the **non-academic source**. Think about the **academic writing style features** you need <u>to avoid</u>.



Useful Tips

- 1. Think about your degree programme at the University of Sunderland in London.
- 2. Consider the **type** of **written assignment** you need to complete, e.g. an academic essay, a report, etc.
- 3. Make a list of academic writing style features you would like to use.
- 4. Proofread a paragraph using your list.
- 5. Highlight the features you would like to improve.
- 6. Redraft and edit the paragraph.
- 7. Proofread the paragraph again.



References:

Bailey, S. (2011). *Academic Writing. A Handbook for International Students* (3rd ed.). Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group.

Gillett, A., Hammond, A. and Martala, M. (2009). *Successful Academic Writing*. Pearson Education Limited.

Swales, J.M. and Feak, C.B. (2012). *Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Essential Tasks and Skills* (3rd ed.). Michigan ELT.