

Academic writing is one of the key skills emphasized in university studies. Avoiding plagiarism, applying paraphrasing and summarizing skills and acknowledge cited sources probably are essential skills in academic essays writing, which require intensive practices. However, students have reportedly encountered difficulty in summary writing and paraphrasing source materials in their writing process. Although these skills were taught in class, students may not be able to master them within a brief lecture.

A series of micro-modules in honing basic and yet essential academic writing skills will prove useful in preparing novice writers for coping with demands of essay writing at the university and for further publications purposes.

Three micro-modules in academic writing skills are developed and they could be used in flipped classrooms, blended-learning and/or supplementary learning materials for the ELTU1001 course's Expository Writing Module. In addition to a 3 to 5 minutes' brief introduction on the topics, the micro-modules also include hands-on follow up activities, such as sample analysis, exercises, paragraphs re-writing, and a short quiz.

Users will enhance awareness of how to avoid plagiarism, as well as apply paraphrasing skills, summarizing strategies and referencing skills in academic essays writing.

These micro-modules may also serve as online independent learning materials for courses that involve academic writing skills and use written essay assignments as assessments.