

# Academic writing – an introduction

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# Academic writing as part of TDDE32

## Teaching

1. Introductory lecture on academic writing
2. Lecture on library search (Mikael Rosell)
3. Seminar: Academic writing and research ethics

## Written assignment

- Essay consisting of five different parts (approx. 10 pages, excluding references)

# Characteristics of Academic writing in TDDE32

- Assumes a good level of general English proficiency
- The essay is written in parts that will be combined into a single text.
- Requires that you have a good idea of what the final essay will contain and how it will be organized.
- Language feedback based on peer-response being given by other course participants
- Requires that you actively participate in giving peer-response to each other

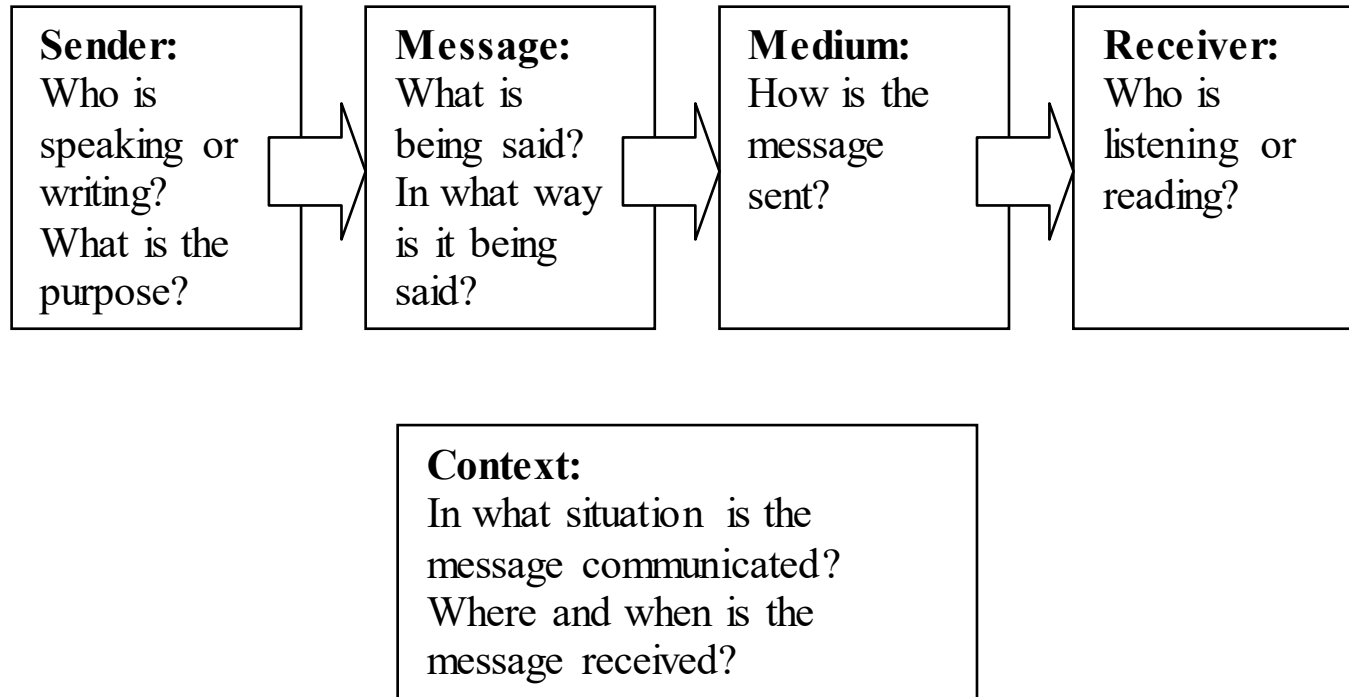
# Academic English Support

- Offer individual guidance
- Information about plagiarism
- Language guidelines

- More information at:

<https://www.student.liu.se/studentstod/sprakstod?l=en>

# Model of communication



# Features of Academic writing

- Presents information based on empirical data, previous research and theoretical models.
- Informed audience (e.g. fellow students/researchers/professionals)
- Specific register (e.g. established terminology, precise and specific vocabulary)
- Formalised organisation (e.g. Introduction, Method, Conclusion, etc.)
- Established rules for how to refer to earlier work

# Academic writing: Important aspects

- Language use
  - Grammatical and clear sentences
  - Formal register
  - Appropriate vocabulary
  - Well-organized text (paragraphs, sections, chapters)

# Academic writing: Important aspects

- Reasoning, logical development
  - Introduce and explain concepts
  - Clearly connect different parts of the text
  - Valid Argumentation
- Possible to reproduce your results
- Research ethics
  - Build on and give credit to previous research
  - Plagiarism – how to avoid!



# Literature (guide on writing)

- Read before the introductory lecture on academic writing
  - G. D. Gopen, J. A. Swan. 1990. [The Science of Scientific Writing—If the reader is to grasp what the writer means, the writer must understand what the reader needs.](#) *American Scientist*, vol. 78.

# Academic writing: upcoming events

11 September

- Introductory lecture on academic writing  
Prepare by reading Gopen & Swan

14 September

- Lecture on library search

2 October

- Workshop: Academic writing and research ethics  
Prepare by doing assignment

# Prepare for the seminar

- Read research articles on sustainability
- Prepare bullet list on most important claims
- Prepare own argumentation around one claim
- Hand in before seminar
  - Upload to LISAM > Submissions
- At the seminar
  - We will work with your first submission of the essay and look at both language and content in relation to the articles you have prepared

# Instructions for seminar assignment

- Read three articles on sustainability
  - R. Heinberg, *The Post Carbon Reader: Managing the 21st Century's Sustainability Crises*, ch. [What Is Sustainability?](#) Watershed Media, 2010.
  - J. Rockström et al., [A safe operating space for humanity](#), *Nature*, vol. 461, pp. 472-475, September 2009.
  - D. Griggs et al., [Sustainable development goals for people and planet](#), *Nature*, vol. 495, pp. 305-307, March 2013.

# Make bullet list of main claims

- 3-5 central claims in the three papers
- Outline your own line of argumentation
  - E.g., can you argue for a different perspective?
  - Or, can you argue for a hidden complexity of something that is claimed in the articles?
  - Or, maybe you could take one of the claims one step further, and outline its consequence(s)?
- Submit (LISAM > Submissions) before the seminar

# At the seminar

- We will go through some general issues with your first submission of the essay (section 1-2)
- We will relate your essay submissions to the articles you have prepared
- We will look at peer response as a resource for improving and learning
- Work with your text in your peer response groups
- We will look at reference handling

# Writing your own essay throughout the course

# Write your course essay in iterations



- Read assigned scientific articles on sustainability
- Write section 1-2 of your report



# Hand in sections 1-2

- Upload section 1-2 into group folder on Lisam
- Peer-review: Upload into LISAM
- Revise



# Iterate

- Repeat for sections 3-4, and section 5
  - Write
  - Peer review
  - Revise
- Submit complete essay at end of course

# Grading

- Text structure and organisation
- Argumentation, coherence and development
- Language and register
- References (correct use of citation format)
  
- For more details, see:  
<https://www.ida.liu.se/~TDDE32/exam/grading.en.shtml>

# Essay submissions

- 22 September, Submit sec 1-2 of essay
- 24 September, Submit peer response of sec 1-2
- 10 November, Submit sec 1-4 of essay
- 12 November, Submit peer response of sec 1-4
- 1 December, Submit sec 1-5 of essay
- 3 December, Submit peer response of sec 1-5
- 10 December, Submit final version of essay

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