# CSS: I need help with…

- reading & making notes
- planning my writing
- writing a flowing coherent text
- writing with impact and clarity
- including stance in my writing
- writing formally
- mastering STEMM vocabulary
- academic email etiquette
- writing a lab report

# Reading and note-making strategies

The aim of this workshop is to develop your understanding of effective academic reading strategies for successful STEMM communication

You will therefore:

learn strategies to improve your reading efficiency and effectiveness

understand how to read in a way that improves your academic writing

learn how to make notes in a way that avoids plagiarism

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You will also need to open
text 1 and text 2

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# Planning and writing effective essays

The aim of this workshop is to clarify the format and content of an essay on a STEMM subject. The workshop explores how to plan and structure an essay and how to evaluate and comment effectively

You will therefore:

understand how to plan and structure a clear, reader-friendly essay

understand how a point-driven essay is more effective than an information-driven essay

recognise that an essay is a selective response to a title and includes evaluative comment

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# Keeping your reader engaged: coherence

The aim of this workshop is to show you how to write a coherent, reader-friendly text. Even when each sentence in a paragraph is lucid and well formed, the text can still feel disjointed and unfocussed

You will therefore:

understand how to build a coherent flow of information that the reader can track with little effort

upgrade your awareness of what is meant by effective scientific communication

learn techniques that expert writers use to keep the reader engaged

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# Writing with impact and clarity

The aim of this workshop is to raise your awareness of good scientific writing. If a reader struggles to access your science because you have not thought about the clarity and impact of what you write, you will fail in a fundamental aspect of being a good scientist, namely passing on your knowledge so that others can build on it

You will therefore:

have a better understanding of good scientific writing

understand how to write with clarity (giving you a happy reader)

be able to write with impact (giving you an engaged & supportive reader)

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# Critical writing

The aim of this workshop is to help you develop the language and strategies needed for effective critical STEMM writing (i.e. writing that evaluates as well as describes information)

You will therefore:

improve your understanding of what it means to write critically in an academic STEMM context

gain a better understanding of how to identify critical language in a text and how to write critically

be able express your own thinking more effectively in your writing

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# Informality and formality

The aim of this workshop is to make you aware that audience affects the level of formality of communication and to help you develop a suitably formal style for academic STEMM writing

You will therefore:

understand that audience affects the level of formality of our communication

be able to recognise formal and informal language

begin to make a shift towards more formal academic style in writing

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# Mastering STEMM vocabulary

The aim of this workshop is to give you strategies for learning new academic and technical vocabulary to maximise the effectiveness of your STEMM communication

You will therefore:

be able to recognise which words and phrases to learn and use in your writing and speaking

understand how to learn vocabulary for STEMM more efficiently

understand how to use vocabulary accurately and effectively

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# Academic email etiquette

The aim of this workshop is to help you communicate appropriately with academic staff, admin teams and support services by email

You will therefore:

have a better understanding of email etiquette for your studies

understand how to write more concise and effective emails

expand your formal vocabulary for academic emails

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# Writing a lab report

The aim of this workshop is to clarify the format of a standard lab report and analyse examples of text and language so you can structure your writing and communicate your ideas more effectively.

You will therefore:

understand the structure and purpose of a lab report

know what information belongs in each section

identify the key language features of a lab report

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