

D4909 – Introduction to Academic Writing in Sports Science

Seminar 3 – Extra Tasks

Homework Tasks

1. Reading and corrections: Read the below article.

** Try and improve the article below to make it more appropriate for academic writing:*

Alzheimer's Disease

Although it causes big problems to do with public health, only five medical treatments are allowed to be used for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and these help to control symptoms rather than change how the disease progresses. Studies of potential drug therapy have been done in patients with disease that is already showing symptoms, yet evidence suggests that the changes in the pathology associated with AD begin a few years before this. Maybe drug therapy can help in this pre-clinical stage before the neurodegenerative process is established. Techniques that allow the condition to be diagnosed much earlier, such as cerebrospinal fluid biomarkers and neuroimaging, are really important to test out this theory in clinical trials. Some results from the recent times for the trials of specific agents look really positive but definitely people should think carefully about these results. Such medicines could maybe stop dementia coming on earlier and would therefore reduce how common it is by a lot.

Original text: (Adapted from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5922703/>)

2. Discuss the questions below regarding academic style:

- Writing from the 1st person (I think, we found....) is more effective than the third person (It was found, it can be argued...):
- Academic tone may be informal and can use contractions (can't, don't etc):
- Writing in a personal style (eg using I, me, we, our..) may convey passion for a topic, which is more important than research evidence:
- Longer sentences are more effective as more ideas can be linked together to help the flow of an academic text:
- Avoiding tentative language (eg this could suggest..., we propose that...) shows lack of strength of opinion and weakens the argument in academic writing:
- Longer sentences may be used in academic writing if the appropriate use of punctuation and linking words is present: