

## Unit 10 – Academic English

### 1. Common errors in academic English

a) *Listening. Watch the introduction to the video about academic English and answer the questions* <https://youtu.be/mZQgd2sPxpK> .

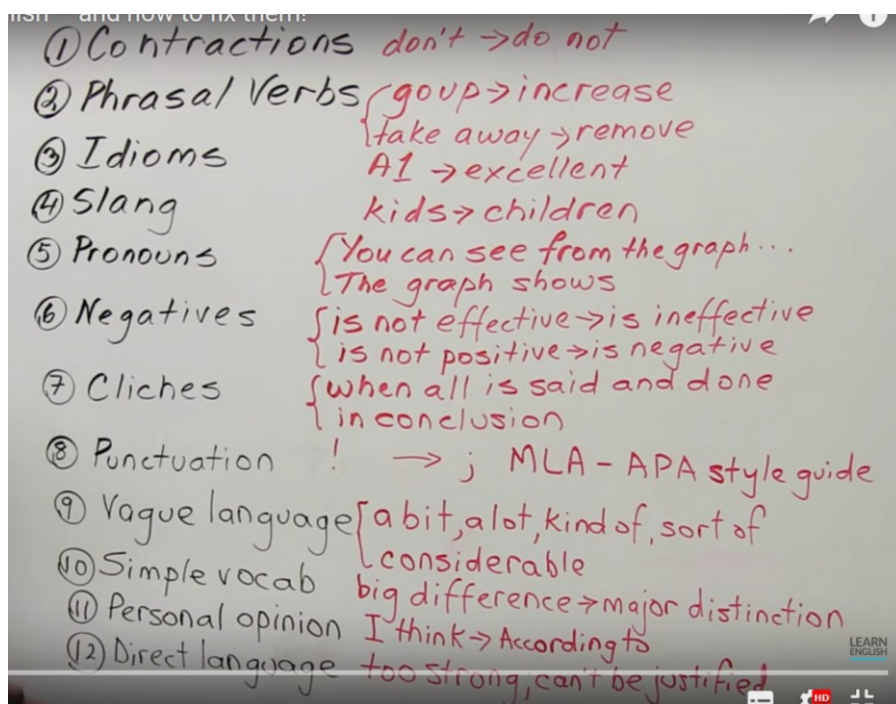
i) How does the speaker define academic English? .....

ii) The speaker mentions three features of academic English:

- It is more .....
- It is more .....
- It uses .....

iii) Which serious problem does the speaker mention? .....

b) *The speaker mentions the following 12 common errors in academic English, which did you know and which can you explain?*



### 2. Verbs useful for academic assignments (Based on Academic Vocabulary in Use, CUP, pp.14-15)

a) *Match the verbs on the left to their more formal synonyms on the right.*

to influence	to attempt
to try	to provide
to give	to affect
to show	to investigate
to look into	to demonstrate
to talk about	to challenge
to question	to discuss

**b) Fill in the gaps in the sentences with suitable verbs from the exercise above. Put the verbs in the correct form.**

- This theory ..... to build bridges between different philosophical schools.
- The graph ..... the correlation between the place where people live and drinks they prefer.
- He did not ..... sufficient statistical evidence for his conclusions.
- The thesis ..... the attitude of young people to diet and health.

**c) Explain the difference between the sentences in each pair.**

Greg's article supports Park's theory.	Greg's article challenges Park's theory.
Describe the new tax regulations.	Discuss the new tax regulations.
Liam provides new data.	Liam considers new data.
Tarski conducted four sets of experiments.	Tarski examined four sets of experiments.
Lee established why such changes occur.	Lee investigated why such changes occur.
John assumed that the data were reliable.	John proved that the data were reliable.
Illustrate the magnitude of the deceleration.	Find the magnitude of the deceleration.

**d) In academic style, noun phrases are sometimes used instead of verbs (e.g. to investigate = to conduct/carry out an investigation of/into, to classify = to make/provide a classification of). Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets and make necessary changes to replace the verb with a noun phrase.**

- Erikson's theory explains the fluctuations in the figures in the figures for this period.  
(PROVIDE)
- Bakker explores the relationship between family background and education.  
(EXPLORATION)
- The book describes the life of Abraham Lincoln. (DESCRIPTION)
- Cheng's theory emphasizes the importance of reading in language acquisition.  
(PLACE)

**e) What do you do in various courses/subjects? Choose two of them and describe typical activities you do there.**

**3. Study habits** (Based on *Academic Vocabulary in Use*, CUP, pp. 50-51)

**a) Match the first part of the word combination on the left with the second part on the right.**

to meet	list
to-do	deadlines
to request	mind maps
to draw	an extension
lecture	draft
first	management
time	notes

**b) What are your study habits? Tick those that apply to you:**

- I prioritize the most difficult or urgent tasks.
- I am not able to revise for more than two hours, so preparing for an exam takes me many days.
- I review my lecture notes within 24 hours after I took them.
- I use tricks to memorize things, like mnemonics or visualizing.
- I draw mind maps.
- I am very good at note taking during lectures, so I don't need any additional materials.
- I always write a first draft of the assignment and then I improve it after 2 or 3 days.
- I find it useful to learn some things by heart.
- I make a study plan each exam period.
- I spent the last day before an exam cramming.

**c) Here are questions from a self-assessment questionnaire on students' time management. Ask your neighbour and compare his/her answers with yours.**

	often	sometimes	never
1 Do you begin working on end-of-semester assignments early in the semester?			
2 Do you meet deadlines for submitting work?			
3 Do you have to request an extension for your work?			

**d) Prepare a similar questionnaire for your classmates. The topic can be study habits or academic assignments.**

**Make a survey in your group, analyze the data and present the results.**

	often	sometimes	never
1			
2			
3			
4			