MOHAMED BOUDIAF UNIVERSITY OF M'SILA

FACULTY OF LETTERS AND LANGUAGES

DEPARTMENT OF LETTERS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(PRFU HO2L01UN280120230001)

Organize

A Face-to-face study Day

entitled

Towards the improvement of EFL Master Students' Academic Reading and Writing Via Critical Thinking

Sunday, January 29th, 2023 at 9.00

Targeted Audience:

Masters (M1, M2 -Linguistics and Literature/ Civilization)

Text:

Academic writing is crucial today; it has a clear focus, and is structured effectively. A piece of academic writing is well- organized and accessible; the argument should progress logically, and its constituent elements should be clearly apparent. Writing, is a tool that conveys acquired knowledge in a specific field of study, helps students analyze, understand, think critically and focus on technique and style. Academic writing also helps us bring all that activity into consciousness, helps to clarify and direct our thinking, and generate more thinking, a part of the same process.

Writers construct their arguments based on the evidence they gather. In this trend, learners must support all assertions that something is true, by providing their readers with evidence for their claim. In academic discourse, evidence derived from books and journal articles authored by experts in their fields is almost always central to the research inquiry. To write for the academic community, it is essential for learners to provide sufficient information about the sources of their evidence and ideas so that their readers can evaluate their reliability.

Academic reading too often requires learners to actively engage with, and critically think about the information they take in. There is a purpose behind what learners are reading, and understanding. This frames how they interpret and use the information. Academic reading is an active process that goes beyond merely reading and highlighting the text. Learners need to interact with the text by taking notes, making connections between the text and what they already know or have experienced with, and asking critical questions about the material they are reading.

What is the importance of academic reading then? Academic reading helps students to interact with and make connections and judgements between texts, question contributions, and challenge inherent biases and arguments. Academic reading is linked to the development of critical thinking.

Critical thinking is the intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication, as a guide to belief and action. Thinking critically helps people better understand themselves, their motivations and goals. Learners, who deduce information to find parts and apply those to their lives, can change their situation and promote personal growth and overall happiness.

Critical thinking can help learners better understand, and in turn, help them avoid negative beliefs, and focus more on their strengths. Sharing their thoughts can increase their quality of life. Critical thinking skills more adopted are **Observation** (Observational skills are the starting point for critical thinking, **analysis** (Once a problem has been identified, analytical skills become essential). **Deduction**, **Communication and Problem-solving**. The first thing for critical thinking is to identify the problem. So, consider what the issue is and break it down, so it is specific, ask how big this problem really is, determine why this problem exists, and what would the consequences be if no action is taken to solve it.

Critical thinking is thinking about things in various ways so as to arrive at the best possible solution in the circumstances that the thinker is aware of. It is a way of thinking about what is occupying learners' minds so that they come to the best possible conclusion- This is the core of the overall target study day -rationale and perspectives.

Study Day: Aims and Objectives

1. To help learners take a position that focuses on and is informed by research and reasoning rather than personal feelings and opinions.

2. To orient learners to learn new information, determine the author's viewpoint, and process new ideas

3. To enable learners to engage in reflective and independent thinking.

4. To change learners into active rather than passive recipients of information.

5. To raise learners' awareness about the most common purposes in academic writing - to persuade, analyze/synthesize, and inform.

Study Day Themes/Tracks

Abstracts are invited on issues, including, but not limited to, the following topics:

1. Academic Writing

2. Academic Reading

3. Critical Thinking

4. Strategic Reading

5. Research and Academic Writing

6. The importance of strategic reading for effective writing

Honorary Chairman: **Prof. Ammar BENLKORICHI**, the Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Languages

Organizer of the study day Chair: **Dr. Tayeb Bouazid**

President of the Scientific Committee: **Dr. Touati Mourad**

Members:

   Dr. Bachir SAHED, University of M'sila/ Algeria

   Dr. Mohammed SENOUSSI, University of M'sila/ Algeria

   Dr. Hamoudi ABOUBAKR, University of M'sila/ Algeria

   Dr. Chawki BOUNAS, University of M'sila/ Algeria

   Dr Mihoubi Houria, University of M'sila / Algeria

   Dr.Golea Tahar ,University of Batna 2/ Algeria

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Important dates

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Abstract submission deadline: **January 15th, 2023**

Notification of Acceptance: **January 20th, 2023**

Study Day date: **January 29th, 2023**

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Abstract Template:

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Researchers are invited to send abstracts of original contributions to the following email address:
tayeb.bouazid@univ-msila.dz

Participation Form

Author(s): ....

Full name: ....

Institutional Affiliation: ....

Research Interests: ....

Email Address: ....

Phone Number: ....

Paper title: ....

Abstract

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(250 words)

Keywords: (5 words maximum)