

Aalto University Language Centre LCA-1022 Academic Writing, 2023-2024

Assessment: Final Written Assignment (40%)

The final written assignment is a 2-3-page paper (1200-1500 words), consecutive pages (i.e. no gaps), from a section of the Master's thesis that involves critiquing literature (generally the pages worked with during the course. If not, consult the teacher first.). In this assignment, students demonstrate the application of writing principles from the course. The paper is assessed holistically and graded on a number of different aspects of the writer's own written ability. Texts submitted for grading must closely follow the assignment specifications, including those regarding originality, avoiding plagiarism and use of AI.

Criteria & Weight	0	1	2	3	4	5	Comments. Note that some overlap and the assessment is holistic.
Topic, purpose, and contents (10%)							Topic and purpose are clear. Contents fulfil the task requirements. Well-chosen evidence supports the main points; the connection between argument and evidence is clearly articulated. All specialized or key terms are well-defined. Clear examples illustrate concepts and issues. The text employs appropriate illustrations and/or quotations. References have been included to convincingly support the argument and idea(s) throughout
Structure and overall organisation. Paragraphing, paragraph unity (20%)							(E.g., PEEL, topic sentences, light-before-heavy, end-focus, order of paragraphs,) It is easy to follow the argument. All paragraphs are well-balanced and used accurately to promote communication and stay on topic Paragraphs meet the criterion of unity, and every paragraph makes one distinct and coherent point, expressed in clear topic sentences.
Coherence and cohesion, logic, and flow (20%)							(E.g., PEEL connections within and between paragraphs, given-new) The text flows naturally and progresses logically throughout. Ideas and arguments are presented in a consistently coherent, logical manner. Cohesion is achieved in such a way that it attracts no attention. Connections among paragraphs are clearly articulated. Transitions between and within paragraphs are smooth. It is easy to follow the argument. Logical progression is easy to follow: the text flows well and demonstrates cohesive principles.
Vocabulary range, sentences, formal style, tone (20%)							The vocabulary range is broad, word choices are accurate and appropriate, and academic phraseology is used. A variety of active and specific verbs are used successfully throughout the text. Sentences are well-balanced, promote readability, and appropriately vary in length and complexity. Style and tone are consistently formal.
Grammatical accuracy and language use (15%)							Consistently maintains a high degree of lexico-grammatical accuracy. The text contains no spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors and employs a formal style and tone. All sentences are complete and grammatical. All word forms, phrases and prepositions are correct.
Academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism (10%)							Sources, referencing techniques (summarizing, paraphrasing, quoting), formatting of references, reference list, in-text references The text follows appropriate conventions. It introduces and integrates direct quotes, in-text and block quotes correctly, and clearly distinguishes direct quoting from own voice and emphasis. The text employs appropriate referencing techniques throughout, including proper formatting and consistent use of a standardized referencing style. It distinguishes clearly between writer's own voice and referencing sources. Clearly indicated references have been included to convincingly support the argument and idea(s) throughout. The use of e-tools has been outlined appropriately at the end of the document and indicates where and how this has affected the text produced by the student.
Length (5%)							2-3 pages equals 1200-1500 words, consecutive pages. Contains no review comments or colours but is a clean text.

The quality of the English language must meet level CEFR: C1.

The final paper is submitted to Turnitin and thus subject to Turnitin plagiarism and AI analyses. If the originality of paper is questionable, 0 is awarded for all categories.

In the end, the writer is responsible for their text and in this course expected to generate all text manually. The use of AI is further detailed in the course.