

USING YOUR ENGLISH

We would like to develop an understanding of how you use English so that we can support you in your studies in Australia. Please take the time to answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Please note that there are no right or wrong answers but the more honest you are in your responses, the better we will be able to tailor our materials and support to assist your progress.

READING AND NOTE TAKING

What sorts of things do you read in English: Newspapers? Journal articles? Novels?
Other – specify.

How much reading do you do in English? How long each day?

Where do you read?

- Online yes no
- At home yes no
- Library yes no

Think about the processes that you use when you read:

- Do you read slowly and carefully trying to understand the meaning of each word?
 yes no
- Do you read quickly to get an overall sense of what the reading is about?
 yes no
- Do you read quickly to get an overall sense and then read again more slowly to understand the main points? yes no
- Do you have a different approach? Please describe it.

How do you make sure that you understand what you are reading?

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Do you make notes when you are reading? If yes, how does this help you? What kinds of notes do you make when you are reading? Do you try to write down as much as you can? If not, what do you do?

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WRITING

How much writing do you do in English? How often?

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What sort of things do you write in English? Essays? Emails? Twitter or microblogging? Other – specify.

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How long are most of your pieces of writing? 150 words? 300 words? 1,000 words? More – specify

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LISTENING

What sorts of things do you listen to in English? Lectures? Music? Films? Casual conversations? Serious discussions / debates? Other – specify.

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SPEAKING

How often did you speak in English before arriving in Australia? (Tick in the appropriate box.)

- Everyday
- Several times a week
- Only occasionally

Who did you speak with? Lecturers? Native speakers? Friends who are not native speakers? Other? List.

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What did you speak about? Studying English? Social matters? Other? List.

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In Australia, who do you speak English with? Lecturers? Native speaker Australians? Other Asian students?

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ACADEMIC DISCUSSIONS

What is a 'seminar'? What happens in a seminar? What does the tutor do? What do students do?

Have you had experience of seminars? Describe these.

If you have experience of seminars please comment on the following questions.

- Do you always agree with what the tutor says? What do you do about it if you don't agree with the tutor?
- How comfortable are you about asking the tutor to clarify something or provide more information in a seminar? How often do you do this?
- Are you comfortable expressing your own opinions in a seminar? How often do you do this?
- Are you comfortable disagreeing with other students in seminars? How often do you express disagreement?

Thank you for your time. We very much appreciate it.