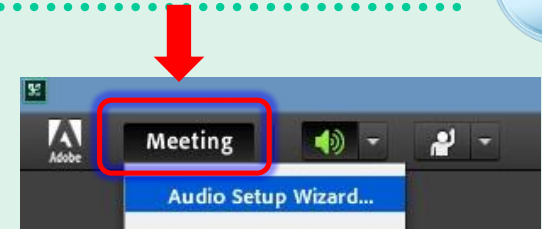# Audio set up

We recommend 'audio set up wizard'

If you want to be able to talk later:

Click on the microphone button to enable it. It should turn green.

Click again on the microphone icon to mute it (will have a line through it when muted).

Interactive features

Practicalities

Please check your own set up and ensure you are not in the room multiple times (*look for your name only being present once not Isabella Henman 2, 3 etc*)

Due to student numbers we will remove microphone rights for everything but the student discussion section.

Session purpose

<u>Is for:</u>

Give some guidance about essay writing.

Allow you to ask questions about approaching essays

Provide a space to interact with other students

<u>Is not for:</u>

Giving any TMA essay answers

Providing any module specific advice

Recap of previous sessions

- Unpacking the question and considering material

- planning and drafting

Polls

What is your emotional feeling about this essay?

- Loving it

- Enjoying it mostly

- Topic OK but just want to get it over

- Absolutely hate everything about it

What grade are you hoping to achieve for your next essay?

- 85%+ (pass level 1)

- 70%+ (pass level 2)

- 55%+ (pass level 3)

- 40%+ (pass level 4)

What have you learnt so far?

Please use the poll pod available to write a sentence about what you have learnt about essay writing so far.

Essay writing workshop Session 3 writing, editing and referencing

Introductory video

Here's one we prepared earlier.

Writing the essay

Once you have worked out what the question means and located your information and planned how you are going to structure the essay, the job of actually writing happens. So these earlier aspects are actually a major part of the process (2/3)

Writing poll

Please suggest in the poll pod available say what are some of the important aspects in **writing** an essay

(assuming you have understood the essay question and planned your content)

Academic English

Think about the:

- Level
- Language
- Style
- Audience
- Purpose

        ….of what you are writing.

Academic English

This is more formal than everyday English.

Look for specific module guidance as some modules have prepared primers & pre-module guides or part of their module or faculty guide which covers expectations for academic English.

Studenthome study skills section
https://help.open.ac.uk/developing-academic-english

Purpose of editing

Editing ensures you have a seamless piece of writing that is directly relevant to the topic and is written from a position of understanding and being able to pick out the most relevant information and write it coherently and accurately.

It makes sure that your essay does not read as a stream of consciousness or series of unconnected pieces of information.

How to edit

Distilling clarity and ensuring that you point adds to the overall argument and matters in proportion.

Go back to your plan and consider value of what you have added.

Is it?

Do we have the group we want and are they working at the same pace?

What is editing?

Editing is:

- checking that everything reads correctly and actually says what you intend it to.

- removing superfluous words / repetition

- ensuring you have answered all parts of the question

- checking everything is relevant to overall topic

- Being focused on what you were asked to do not what you might have wanted to do

Be ruthless!

Referencing poll

Suggest what the purpose of referencing is

What is referencing?

Referencing has 2 parts – an in text citation and the full reference details.

The in text citation indicates that a piece of information, idea or fact has been drawn from a specific named source.

The reference details give the full details of what that source is and where it can be found.

The actual format of this does differ according to module and subject which reflects the requirements of the overall academic world.

Referencing is not

…a way of getting out of writing in your own words. An essay that is a string of quotations, even with a matching string of citations, is not your own work so would not be appropriate at university level.

OU Harvard

In general it is the OU Harvard style which is maintained by the OU Library at
https://learn1.open.ac.uk/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=15025

This follows the author's name and date convention (Henman, 2017).

One example might be to reference the recording of the 1st workshop as (Henman, 2017) and then in the final reference list.

Henman, I. (2017) 'Studenthub Live Essay writing 1', *Adobe Connect recording for Studenthub live* [Online] Available at https://learn1.open.ac.uk/mod/connecthosted/view.php?id=16014 [Accessed 1 November 2017]

Referencing specifics

Always read the instructions provided by your module / faculty / degree as there are differences so pay attention to specific instructions.

We cannot discuss any specifics here as there are too many different possibilities to cover them all

Breakout time

Together you will have the opportunity to chat about what you have learnt about essay writing so far. This is your chance to talk through what you have learnt and what you might do for your essay.

You can chat about how to edit or referencing or planning or anything related to essay writing that your group finds helpful.

You might like to tell your group something you have learned that you would like to incorporate.

You may like to ask about how your fellow learners will approach an essay.

At the end of the breakout time there is an opportunity to feed back to the whole group if you would like to.
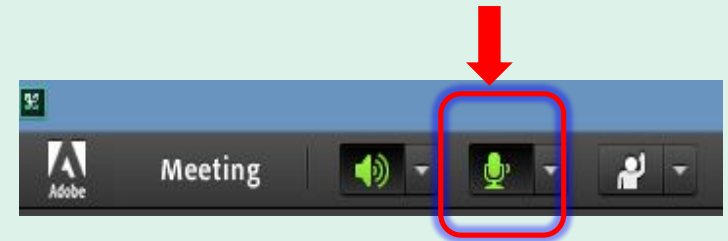
Breakout session

Mic permission will be granted as you go in. You need to activate your mic if you want to talk. It is up to you but if you want to feedback later you will need to have a mic

We suggest you mute when not actively talking

Bear in mind there are quite a few people in each room. Think sensibly how you can manage any discussion.

Use the chat pods for discussion for those who want to type.

Plenary

What can people share from their sessions?

Additional help

The library runs referencing workshops – see http://www.open.ac.uk/library/training-and-events for details.

Core study skills at https://help.open.ac.uk/topic/study-skills

Academic English at https://help.open.ac.uk/developing-academic-english

Writing for university https://help.open.ac.uk/writing-for-university

Thanks!

Thanks for coming ☺

Youtube links:

Essay writing 1 intro: https://youtu.be/_BSOBfh0tGM

Essay writing 2 intro: https://youtu.be/k1IMUscWOHk

Essay writing 3 intro: https://youtu.be/xrOJfjGTsL0

Link to download slides from tonight in files pod below (click on file then select download as and save to your own computer).

All slides are also available from http://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/