

## **APPENDIX E**

Interview Transcripts

### 1. MA/ESP students' needs of academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“My need for academic writing is for preparation of a thesis. I would also like to write my own book.”</p> <p>“I think for the writing of academic articles and thesis. My needs are not only for my academic studies, but also for my current and future employment.”</p> <p>“Preparation of my Masters thesis and maybe for a Doctoral degree program”</p> <p>“Preparation of a thesis and my job.”</p> <p>“For my thesis and for a future career that might require contact with foreigners.”</p> <p>“First, for career advancement so it will make me look more professional. Second, it is needed for writing my thesis, which is really the important part of the ESP degree program”</p>	<p>“Thesis.”</p> <p>“The writing of a thesis and class assignments (e.g., essays)”</p> <p>“The writing of academic articles and thesis.”</p> <p>“Preparation of a thesis is enough.”</p> <p>“For preparation of my thesis and future Doctoral degree program. The use of academic writing is important because it will distinguish us (ESP students) from other academic fields”</p> <p>“Writing of my thesis because academic English is not used in normal conversation. After graduation, I think it will be useful for the type of employment that requires contact with foreigners, or for reading documents related to employment with the government.</p>

**1. MA/ESP students' needs of academic writing (Cont'd)**

<b>ESP 4</b>	<b>ESP 5</b>
“Writing in academic style would make people pay me more respect. However, I think writing something too academically would make people lose interest and possibly not read it. Therefore, I think writing the thesis is most important.”	

## 2. MA/ESP students' aspect of needs in academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“Writing reports.”</p> <p>“Primarily completing class assignments requiring written essays.”</p> <p>“I think grammar and vocabulary are what I need because I don't have enough vocabulary.”</p> <p>“Written class assignments, writing essays in conjunction with examinations and also writing a thesis”</p> <p>“Taking notes in professional meetings or in academic classes. We should be able to write in a formal style.”</p> <p>“Completion of examinations and promotion tests that will allow me to advance professionally.”</p>	<p>“For use in the examination for my further study.”</p> <p>“I think for use in writing articles and completing assignments, which are important aspects of need.”</p> <p>“For completion of essays, reports or assignments.”</p> <p>“For improvement in my use of vocabulary, since I don't know appropriate words in the context where I have to use a long phrase. I believe there are words that express the required thought clearly and concisely.”</p> <p>“I need to improve my grammar; many times I write incorrectly. For example, I do not know how to write the plural form; i.e., whether to add '-s' or '-es'”</p> <p>“I need to improve my grammar. I think I use correct grammar, but when a native speaker checks my documents, he identifies forms that do not exist in English.”</p>

### 3. MA/ESP students' knowledge in academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“Only a little. I don't think I have much knowledge about writing, and I am unable to write good enough for my current needs.”</p> <p>“Moderate, because I studied English previously. My writing is not that bad; however, if required to write in an academic style, I am unable.”</p> <p>“Moderate. I am able to write with some academic style, and I know the vocabulary used in academic writing.”</p> <p>“Quiet a lot. I can express what I want and make the reader understand.”</p>	<p>“Below moderate. I feel like there are so many details in academic writing; for example, grammar and organizing my ideas. Despite my efforts, my style of academic writing follows the Thai style.”</p> <p>“Moderate. My knowledge is based on what I gained from my experiences.”</p> <p>“Moderate. I know what should or should not be written.”</p> <p>“Moderate, but sometimes I still use speaking language style in my academic writing.”</p> <p>“I believe that I do well in Thailand.”</p>

#### 4. MA/ESP students' confidence in academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“Very, very low. I believe that writing proficiency comes with reading. If I read a lot, it will help improve my ability to write. I believe that it really helps, but the problem is I hate reading. Thus, I am unable to write using the academic style.”</p> <p>“I don't feel confident. I'm not sure about grammar, order of the sentences, or even extended sentences and paragraphs. I still think like other Thai people and write in Thai style also.”</p> <p>“Not very confident. I don't feel confident because it not my native language.”</p> <p>“I feel that I can write, but I am unsure whether or not it is correct.”</p> <p>“A lot.”</p>	<p>“Not very confident. I usually draft a document and request other people to check the style and grammar”</p> <p>“I feel my confidence is getting better but it is still low.”</p> <p>“Fair, but it also depends on the topic that I'm writing. If I have information about what I want to write, I am very confident.”</p> <p>“I feel confident up to 50%, since we do a lot of reading. It does help that what I use is correct.”</p>

### 5. MA/ESP students' difficulty or obstacle in academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“Vocabulary. Normally we use easy words like ‘do’ rather than ‘conduct’ or ‘get’ rather than ‘obtain’, but in the academic writing the vocabulary requirements are quite complex. This is not familiar to me, and therefore it would take time to develop these skills.”</p> <p>“Of course there is a problem, since my primary language is Thai and I need to be able to write in a secondary language, English. Surely these two languages are different. This causes me problems.”</p> <p>“I think the problem is due because of me. I don’t like writing, especially academic writing. I’m quite lazy and hate to practice. I think becoming proficient in academic writing requires a lot of practice.”</p>	<p>“The limitation of my vocabulary.”</p> <p>“I don’t know much, especially about the style. I don’t know the foreigners’ style, so when I write it’s not correct. And sometimes the teachers’ style is not the same as my style”</p> <p>“I have ideas when writing, and I feel specific words exist that can explain my ideas, but I am unable to find these words.”</p> <p>“Ideas and grammar. I cannot explain my ideas clearly. Sometimes I become confused.”</p> <p>“I think the cause of my writing problems are insufficient vocabulary, grammar, and experiences.”</p> <p>“I do not practice writing very much. Also, I have not read a lot of journal or academic articles. My study of academic writing is limited to the application in academic classes.”</p>

### 5. MA/ESP students' difficulty or obstacle in academic writing (Cont'd)

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“I don't understand the teacher when he critic my writing, because he does not provide explanations with his comments. For example, he states that I write too much in the Thai style, but he does not explain specifically what is Thai style. I think my academic writing is correct grammatically. The problem is the lack of useful feedback by the instructor.”</p> <p>“I'm lazy and don't like reading, so many times I don't have ideas for the various writing assignments.”</p> <p>“I don't think that the style of academic writing is difficult. The difficult aspect is the content. If I am unfamiliar with the field or the topic, then I don't think I can write about it.”</p>	<p>“I think culture causes me problems. The English language it has various levels of vocabulary, but I don't know which word is suitable for a specific context.”</p> <p>“I feel that many times the teacher does not provide clear explanations, because he is unable to express himself well. For example, he instructs us to write a good essay, but he does not explain the step to achieve this goal.”</p>

### 6. MA/ESP students' plan and resolution in academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“I think the best way is to read a lot, keep practicing writing and use a dictionary for guideline some sentences.”</p> <p>“I don't want to solve the problem; it's too late.”</p>	<p>“Personally, I don't want to solve the problem. I understand that it takes time to speak fluently. The same is true for acquiring academic writing skills. It would take me a long, long time to be able to write well academically.”</p> <p>“I study more, especially the style and format that foreigners use. I learn from this by following their style.”</p> <p>“I read a lot and write a lot.”</p>

### 7. MA/ESP students' needs in developing academic writing skill

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“I plan to take a writing course at a language school.”</p> <p>“I plan to keep practicing, use the appropriate style, and also try to use academic vocabulary as often as I can.”</p>	<p>“I plan to use self study up to 80% in developing academic writing. I also plan to consult with the teachers or advisor.”</p> <p>“I plan to read journal articles, learn the format (genre) of each type of academic writing, and try to use the style of foreigners.”</p>

### 8. MA/ESP students' tools in developing academic writing skill

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“A dictionary is helpful in finding suitable words for essays.”</p> <p>“Read journal articles related to the topic, and study articles from the field so I can learn the style vocabulary.”</p> <p>“I think it would be beneficial to live in an environment that uses English. If I want to be a good academic writer, I would like to go aboard and live and work in an academic environment.”</p> <p>“I would love to attend writing a course or seminar that relates to academic writing.”</p>	<p>“We can use the Internet to check the whether sentences are grammatically correct. I use a search engine and type my sentence with a capture. If the result contains a thousand similar examples, that would indicate an acceptable foreigner style. If it is not found or only a few examples are identified, it is probably not acceptable.”</p> <p>“I would ask my friends for comments and ask my teacher for suggestions.”</p> <p>“A dictionary is useful, especially collocation and definitions. I can learn whether or not the word is used in an academic context, based on the example given.”</p>

**9. MA/ESP students' opinion about people or organization that can help developing academic writing**

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“ESP teachers, because all my academic writing knowledge comes from them.”</p> <p>“Teachers who design the course. I think they could adjust the knowledge base of each other before the ESP program starts.”</p> <p>“Instruction using native teachers would help a lot, since this is their native language. They can provide guidance regarding the content and writing style.”</p>	<p>“ESP teachers, because they are most knowledgeable regarding the needs of ESP students.”</p> <p>“ESP teachers -- both Thai and native teachers.”</p> <p>“I think ESP program director should ask students what they need and consult with the program designer, so the course will truly serve our needs.”</p>

### 10. MA/ESP students' opinions and suggestions for academic writing

ESP 4	ESP 5
<p>“The academic writing course must offer in the first term or as a preliminary course. Time should be allotted for students to practice academic writing.”</p> <p>“An academic writing course will be more effective if the teacher is able to communicate more clearly. I feel that the course content is often too vague and too universal.”</p> <p>“We should not be lazy. We should do a lot of reading and academic writing.”</p>	<p>“A preliminary course should teach only academic writing, not like many courses like I have previously studied. I think they were a waste of time. I believe that not only me but others, too, didn't gain much knowledge from these types of courses. The topics were not taught in detail. Therefore, I recommend concentration on a single subject like academic writing. This would provide greater benefit compared to teaching many subjects superficially.”</p> <p>“The teacher sometimes do not adequate understand how to teach. He should have a solid methodology for the students to follow. I feel that what is taught is often too general. I think teachers are smart and experienced in writing, but the teaching style should be easy to understand.”</p> <p>“I believe that everything starts with one's self. If you want to learn, you have to open your mind and pay attention. I think attitude is important.”</p>

**10. MA/ESP students' opinions and suggestions for academic writing (Cont'd)**

<b>ESP 4</b>	<b>ESP 5</b>
	“Teachers should to pay attention to the tools for an academic writing course, too. If teachers teach us how to use the tools, we can then practice and improve our academic writing skills -- not only during class but also outside of class.”