

A Good University



**NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**

SINGAPORE



National Institute of Education



Are Good Readers Also Good Writers?

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Outline



The reading-writing connection

Why writing is so hard

Bridging the reading-writing gap

1. The Reading & Writing Connection



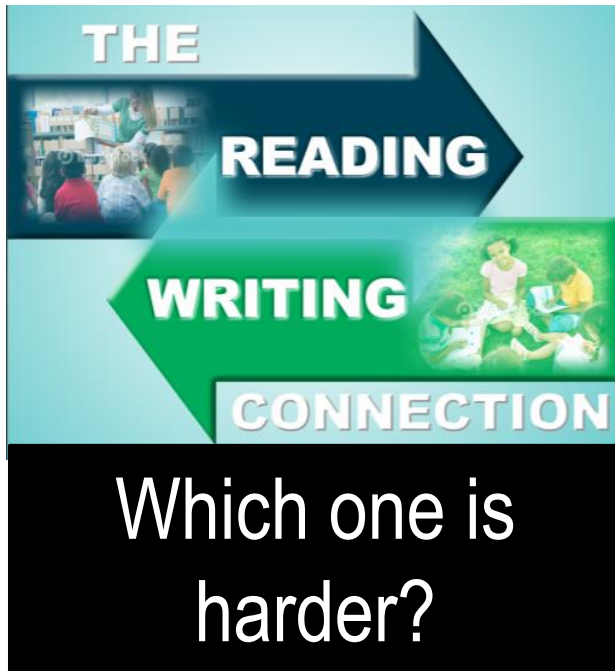
- We know that reading and writing are connected
- They are two sides of the same coin

1. The Reading & Writing Connection



- Can't read – can't write
- Good writers are good readers?
- Good readers are good writers?
- **Yes, but not always**

1. The Reading & Writing Connection

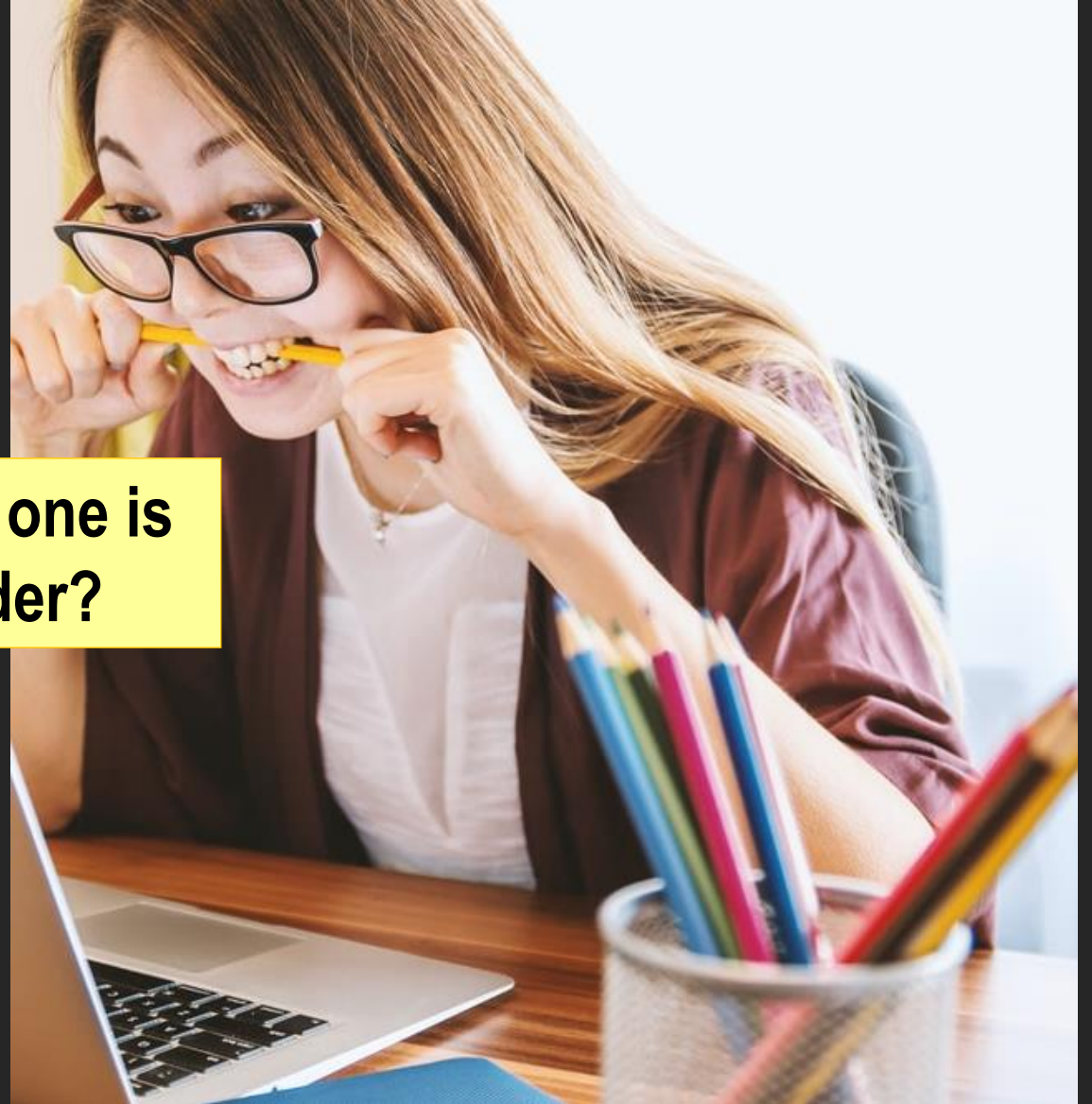
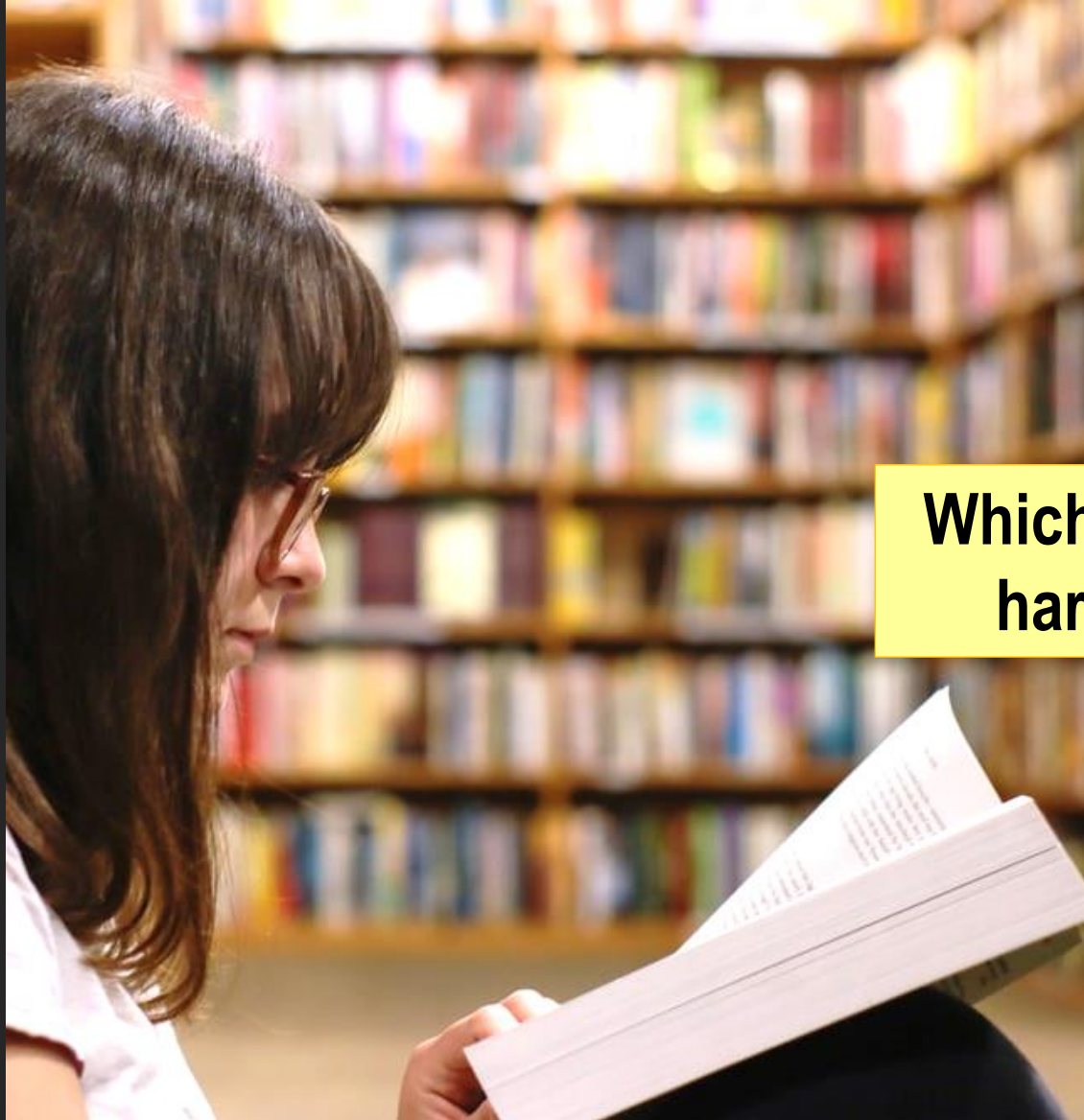


Reading

- Comprehending, appreciating text
- Semantic processing

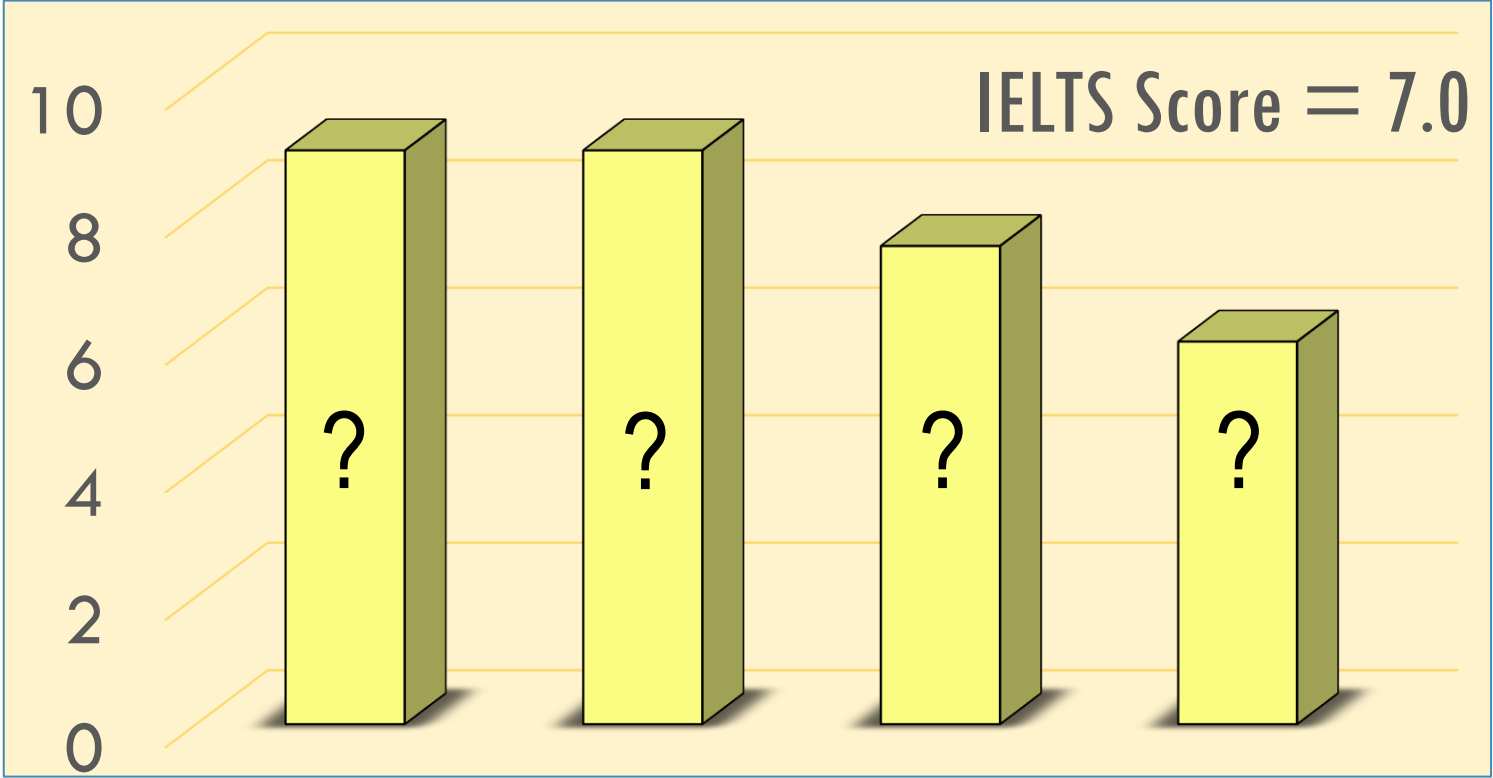
Writing

- constructing, creating text
- Syntactic processing

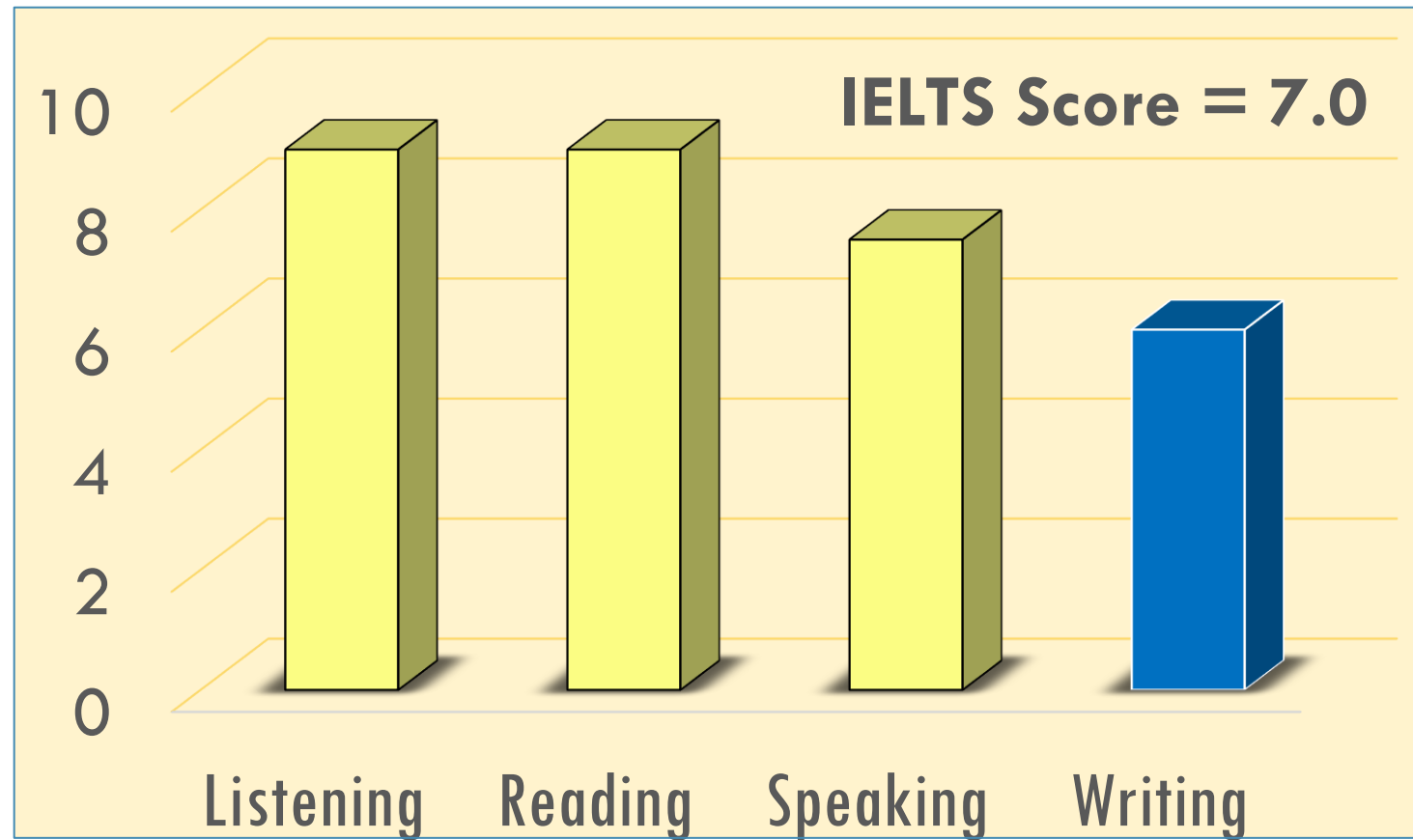


Which one is harder?

Typical IELTS Scores of International Students



Typical IELTS Scores of International Students



2. Why is writing so hard?



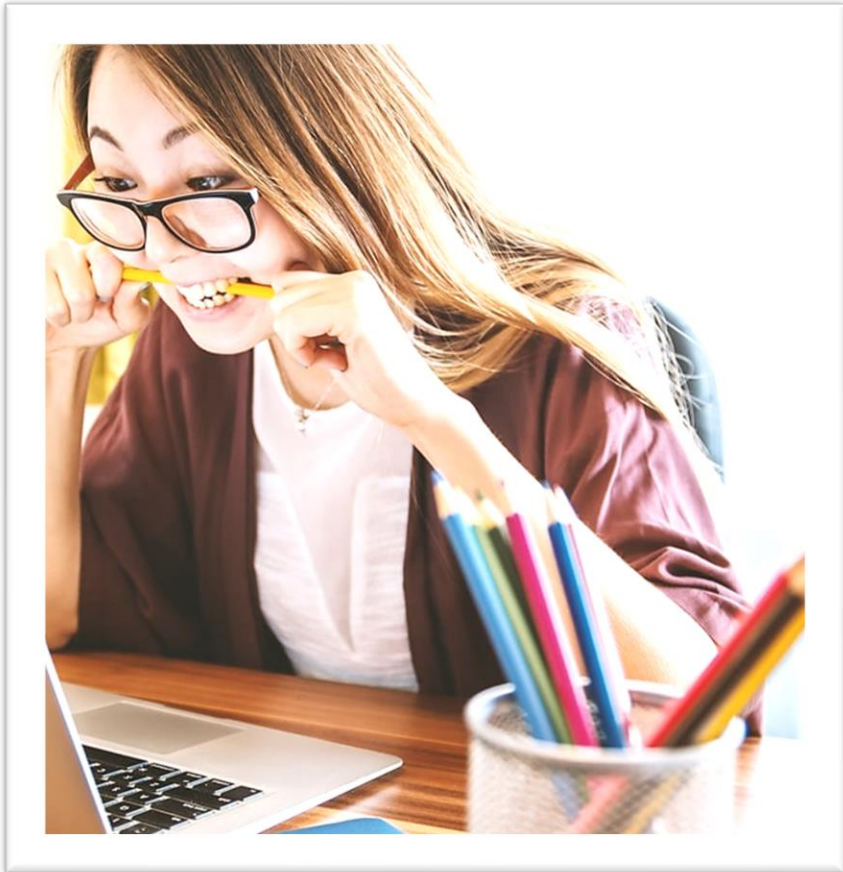
Unlike speech, writing is context independent

Rigid structure and organization

Text signals to guide readers

Formal and standard variety

e.g., look at vs examine; put up with vs tolerate



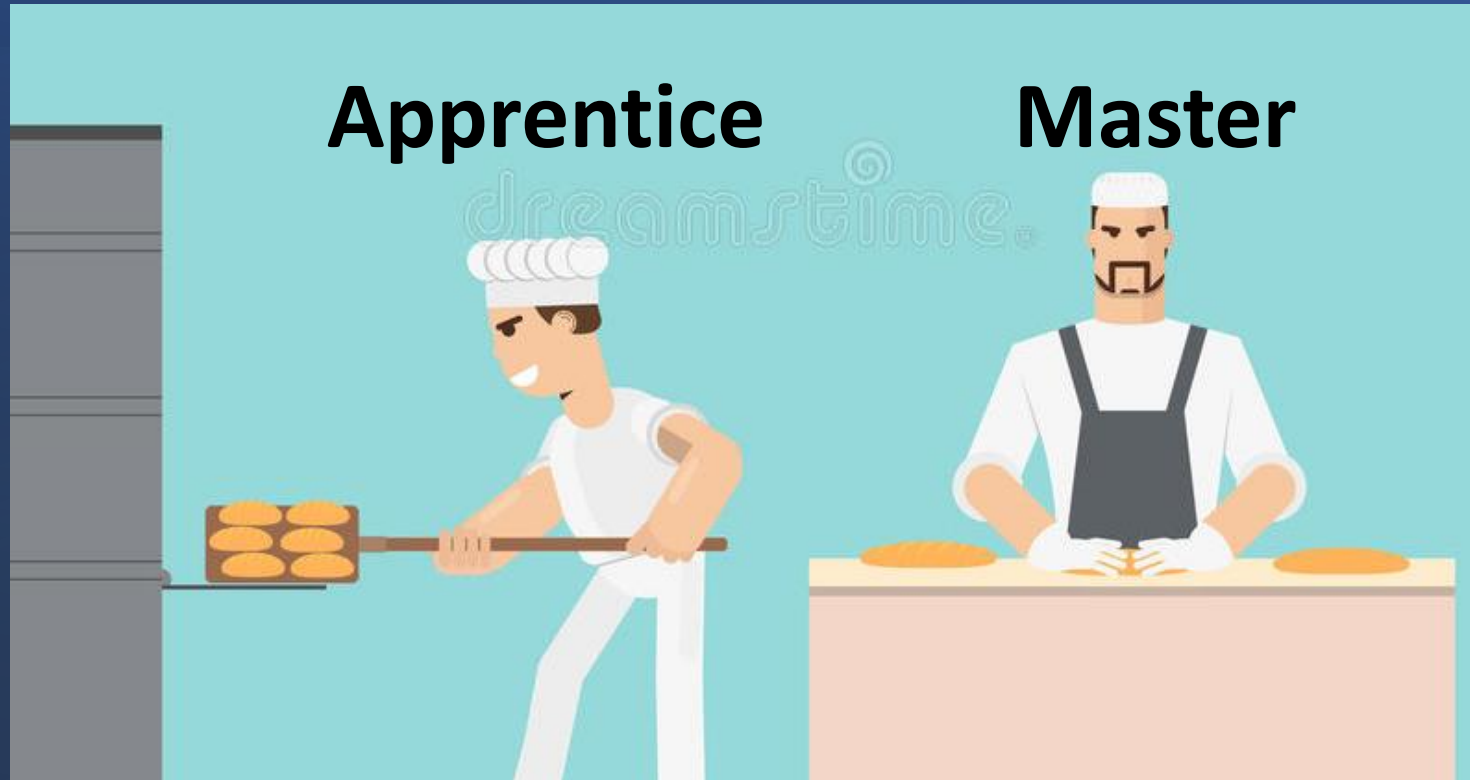
Longer and more complex sentences

Academic writing: content and structure

Slow and laborious; Mentally taxing

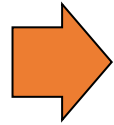
3. Bridging the Reading-Writing Gap

An Apprenticeship model of skill learning

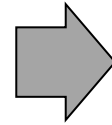


Gradual Release of Responsibility

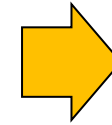
Modelling



Imitating

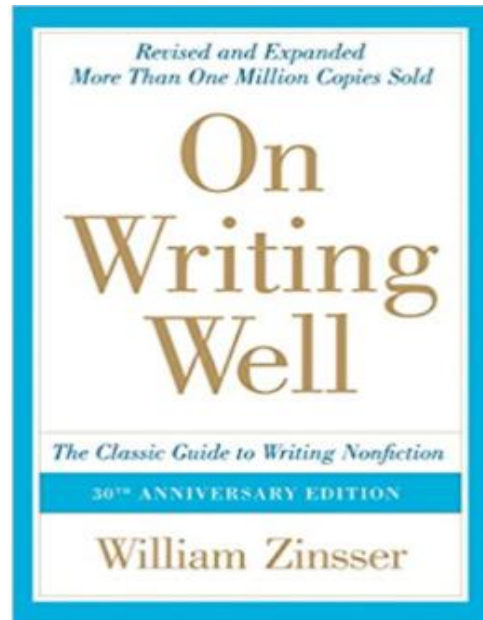


Approximating



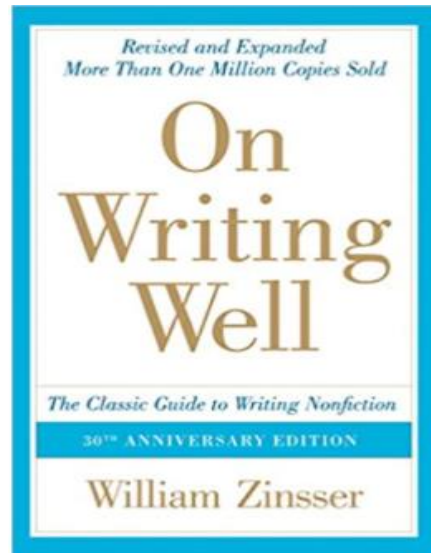
Creating





2006

"Writing is learned by **imitation**. If anyone asked me how I learned to write, I'd say I learned by **reading the men and women who were doing the kind of writing I wanted to do and trying to figure out how they did it.**"



2006

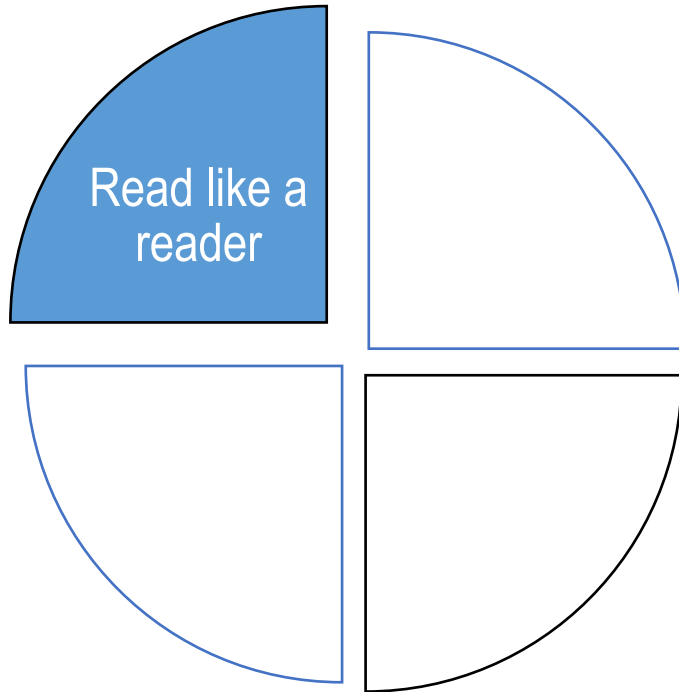
If you want to write like **Richard Day** or **Stephen Krashen**

- **Read** their works
- Observe their writing styles
- Imitate them
- Practice every day
- Develop your own style

Pathways to bridging the reading-writing gap



Read Like a Reader



- Read for information
- Read for enjoyment
- Read as much as possible
- Read different types of text
- Read 20-30 mins a day
- Benefits of daily reading?

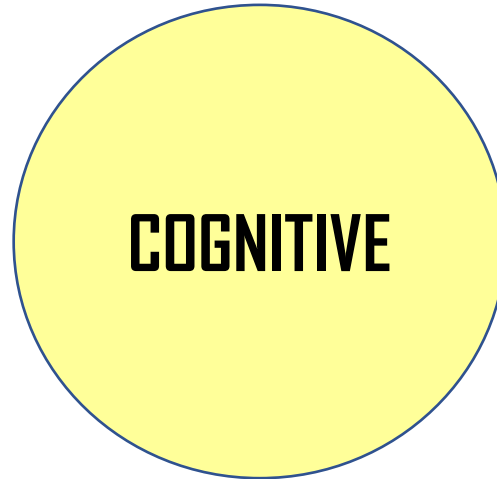
BENEFITS OF READING

WORD
Knowledge



Grammar
Text structure

WORLD
Knowledge



Thinking &
Comprehension
skills

Motivation



Enjoyment

The reading-writing connection

... when enough **reading** is done, all the necessary grammatical structures and discourse rules for **writing** will automatically be presented to the **writer** in sufficient quantity.



(Krashen, 1984, p. 23)

EFL Teacher: The reading-writing connection

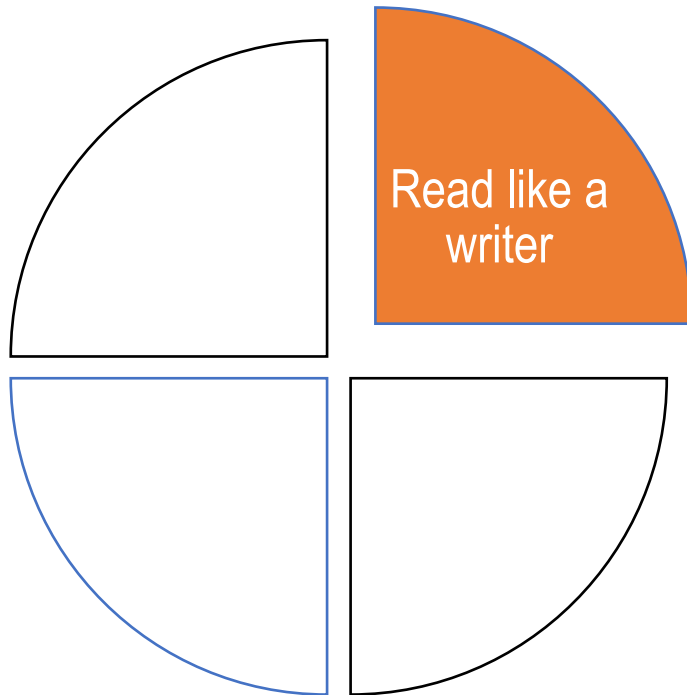
Reading makes
reading easier!!

Reading makes
writing easier!!



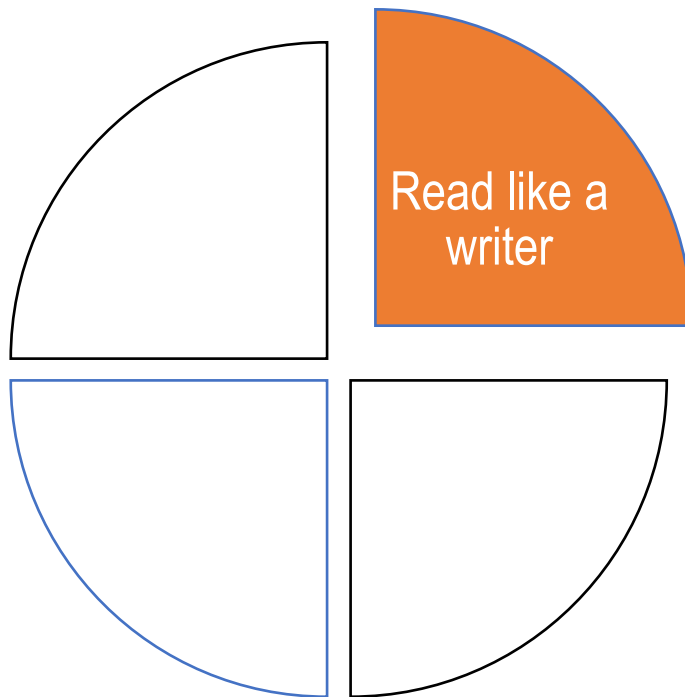
Read Like a Writer

Writerly reading



1. Purpose
2. Audience
3. Context
4. Text features

Read Like a Writer
Writerly reading



Focused Noticing

Exposition

When do I use it?

To argue or persuade a case for or against a particular point of view

Use:

Reported Speech

- Many residents say ...
- A number of newspapers have reported ...

Technical Terms

- Australia's marine life ...
- Multi-storey building
- Leisure time

Evaluative Language

- It is extremely important that we ...
- It is not our responsibility ...

Conjunctions and Connectives

- ... because ...
- ... therefore ...
- firstly
- secondly

Thinking Verbs

- Many people believe ...

Modal Verbs

- We must take care ...

Introduction

State your problem or your position on the topic.

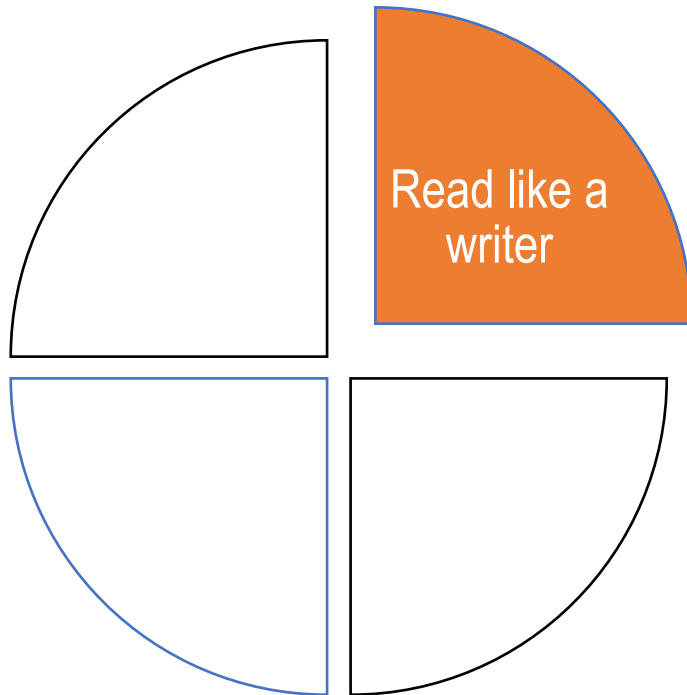
Argument

Give the arguments for and rebut any arguments against.

Conclusion

You might restate your position in the conclusion to help the reader make up his or her mind.

Read Like a Writer
Writerly reading



Structure of abstract

General background

Specific background

Knowledge gap

Research Methodology

Results

Implications

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

Academic Phrasebank

Phrases

<https://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>

Language used in Abstract

In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in ...

Recent developments in X have heightened the need for ...

The last two decades have seen a growing trend towards ...

Recently, researchers have shown an increased interest in ...

MANCHESTER
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Language used in Abstract

Currently, there are no data on ...

What is less clear is the nature of ...

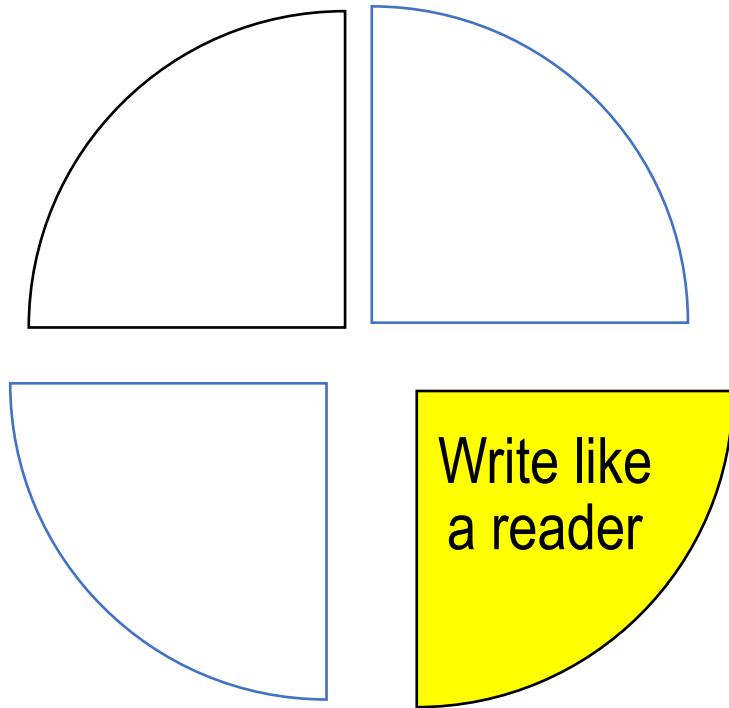
Very little is currently known about X in ...

Research to date has not yet determined ...

What is not yet clear is the impact of X on ...

Write Like a Reader

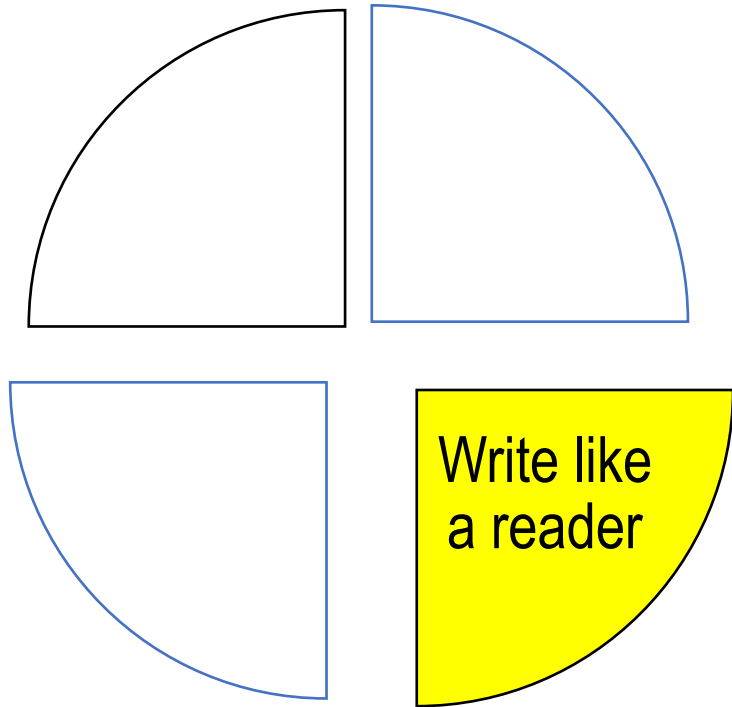
Readerly Writing



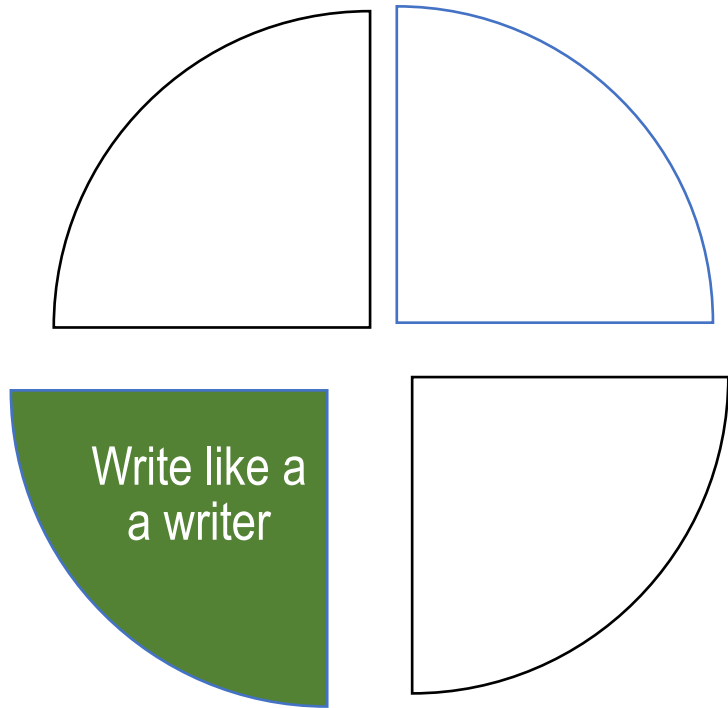
- Awareness of audience and purpose for writing
- First draft is 'horrible'
- Not reader-friendly
- Poor style and language
- Coherence problem

Write Like a Reader

Readerly Writing



- Writing is revising
- Revise your 1st and 2nd draft ...
- Keep revising
- Write for real audience (not just teachers)



Write Like a Writer

- Write daily
- Write a variety of text for different purposes and audiences
- Emails, blogs, social media posts, poems, academic papers

10 STEPS

TO BECOMING
A **BETTER**

WRITER

1. *Write.*
2. *Write* MORE.
3. *Write* EVEN MORE.
4. *Write* EVEN MORE THAN THAT.
5. *Write* WHEN YOU DON'T WANT TO.
6. *Write* WHEN YOU DO.
7. *Write* WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY.
8. *Write* WHEN YOU DON'T.
9. *Write* EVERY DAY.
10. **KEEP** *Writing.*

by Brian Clark

BENEFITS

- Polished writer
- Clarity & coherence

BONUS



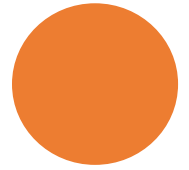
joy

Pathways to building a stronger connection between reading and writing



Implications and conclusions

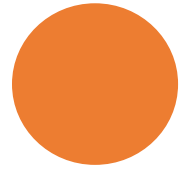
- Strengthen the connection between reading and writing
- Provide students with more opportunities to learn from texts before they write
- One model text is not enough!!

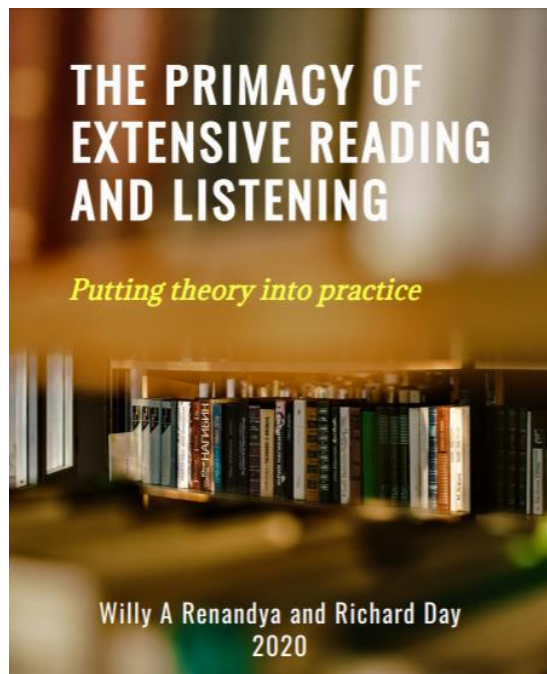
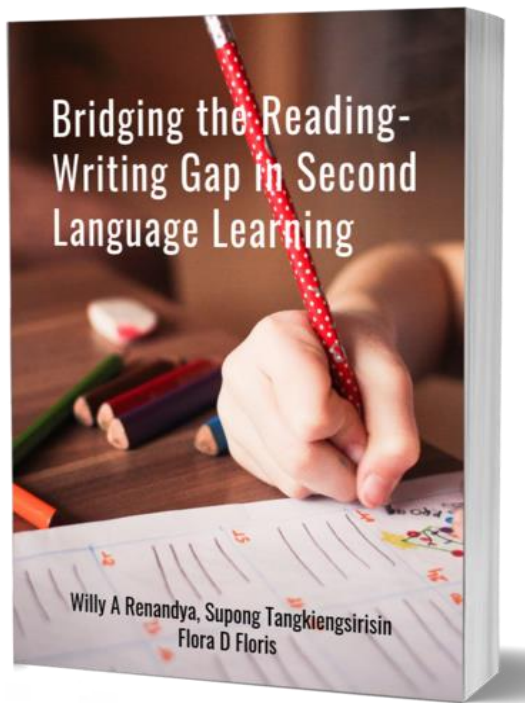


Implications and conclusions

- To write a job appl letter, 10 model texts may be needed!!
- How about writing an academic paper?
- Engage students in focused noticing of text features
- Encourage students to read and write more

Finally, people learn to read & write by &





FREE RESOURCES @WILLY'S ELT CORNER