

ADOPTING A PERSONAL WRITING STYLE

Explanation:

Assuming that you have been blogging for a short while already, you have a body of work to critically analyse. There are two axes of progress that you can pursue: technical skills, and distinct voice.

Before you undertake the following tasks, it is really helpful to read a couple of posts from a few of your favourite blogs. Note the features of the writing that appeal to you. Can you emulate that in your own writing or adapt your style to create a similar appeal?

Learning activity:

Task 1

In chronological order read and critically review the writing in any seven of your previous posts. Make notes as you go. What qualities do you think you have improved on and what do you still find hard?

Here are some options:

Structure

Introductions

Conclusions

Making connections to subject material

Inspiration and ideas

Consistency

Balance

Relevance

Clear explanations

Vocabulary

Accuracy

Now think about how you can play to these strengths and what you really need to focus on improving. In your next posts make a point to address your weaknesses.

Task 2

Because you are blogging for university, it is desirable to be an informed writer but what else can you say about your writing. If you had to apply three adjectives to sum up what is distinctive about your writing, what would they be? Here are some adjectives to help you:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| plucky | detailed | succinct |
| serious | snappy | colourful |
| quirky | inspired | enthusiastic |
| eloquent | comprehensive | youthful |
| mature | original | whimsical |
| thorough | economical | friendly |
| simple | political | cryptic |
| sarcastic | humorous | argumentative |
| provocative | cheerful | familiar |
| knowledgeable | contemporary | thoughtful |
| connected | sincere | focused |

Is there a mismatch? Do you want to have a different writing style to what you are producing? Determine the tone you would like to have. When you write, keep the three adjectives that describe this visible and strive to be consistent in your writing style.