



## Developing Writing Skills Through Weblogs

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# Academic Writing challenges

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Students daunted, particularly Year 1

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Change in structure

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Referencing

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Writer's Block

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Learners lacking in confidence in their writing

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# Aims

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Fluidity in writing - flow

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Make writing enjoyable!

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Careful planning i.e. generate ideas, get writing, make progress

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Develop research skills

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Meet the deadlines

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# What we did

Each learner required to set up a blog

Topic of learner's choice: main topic and sub-ideas

Weekly posts

Prompt feedback – apply feedback immediately

Implement research

# Students' experiences

Slow to  
engage  
initially

Reluctant to  
publish

Confidence  
gained in  
writing

Writing  
improved

Research skills  
developed

Building an  
argument

# Feedback from participants

Inspiring

Variety was great

Thought-provoking

Leeway to choose topic great

# Recommendations

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- Encourage students to continue to write blog posts
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- More team work – small groups in class
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- Continue to provide prompt feedback
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- Award marks/credits
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ANY  
QUESTIONS  
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