



Optimising academic writing support for learners: the perspectives of lecturers

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June 29, 2023

Academic Writing context

Onus on students to request support

Many students daunted

Negative perception – break barriers

Maximise benefits of free service

Students' views

Overall positive feedback

Writing structure, grammar, punctuation, referencing, paraphrasing

Literature reviews

Blended approach preferable

Some learners not aware of Academic Writing Centre (AWC)

What did we do?

Invited lecturers who booked sessions to provide feedback

20 participants

Academic Writing Centre feedback

The survey will take approximately 6 minutes to complete.

1. What Faculty are you working in? (You are welcome to include your name/subject if you wish)

Enter your answer

2. What support did you request for your class from the Academic Writing Centre?

Enter your answer

3. Valuable aspects of the group session, including feedback from students?

Enter your answer

Lecturers' views

Interactive sessions excellent

Practical tips useful

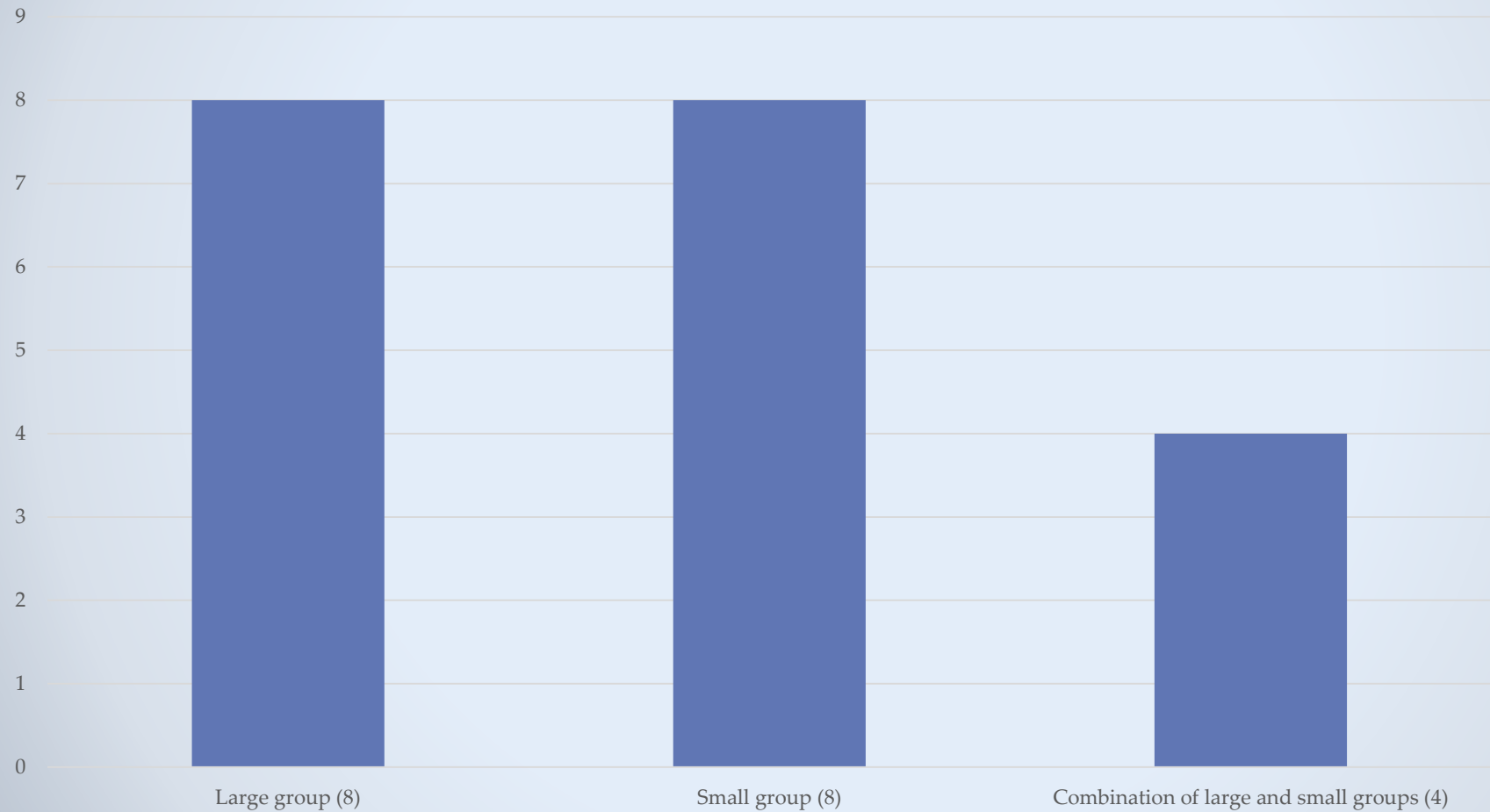
Introductory sessions, followed by individual appointments

Collaboration essential

Tailored sessions – subject-specific

Recorded resources on VLE valuable

Size of seminar



What should we focus on?

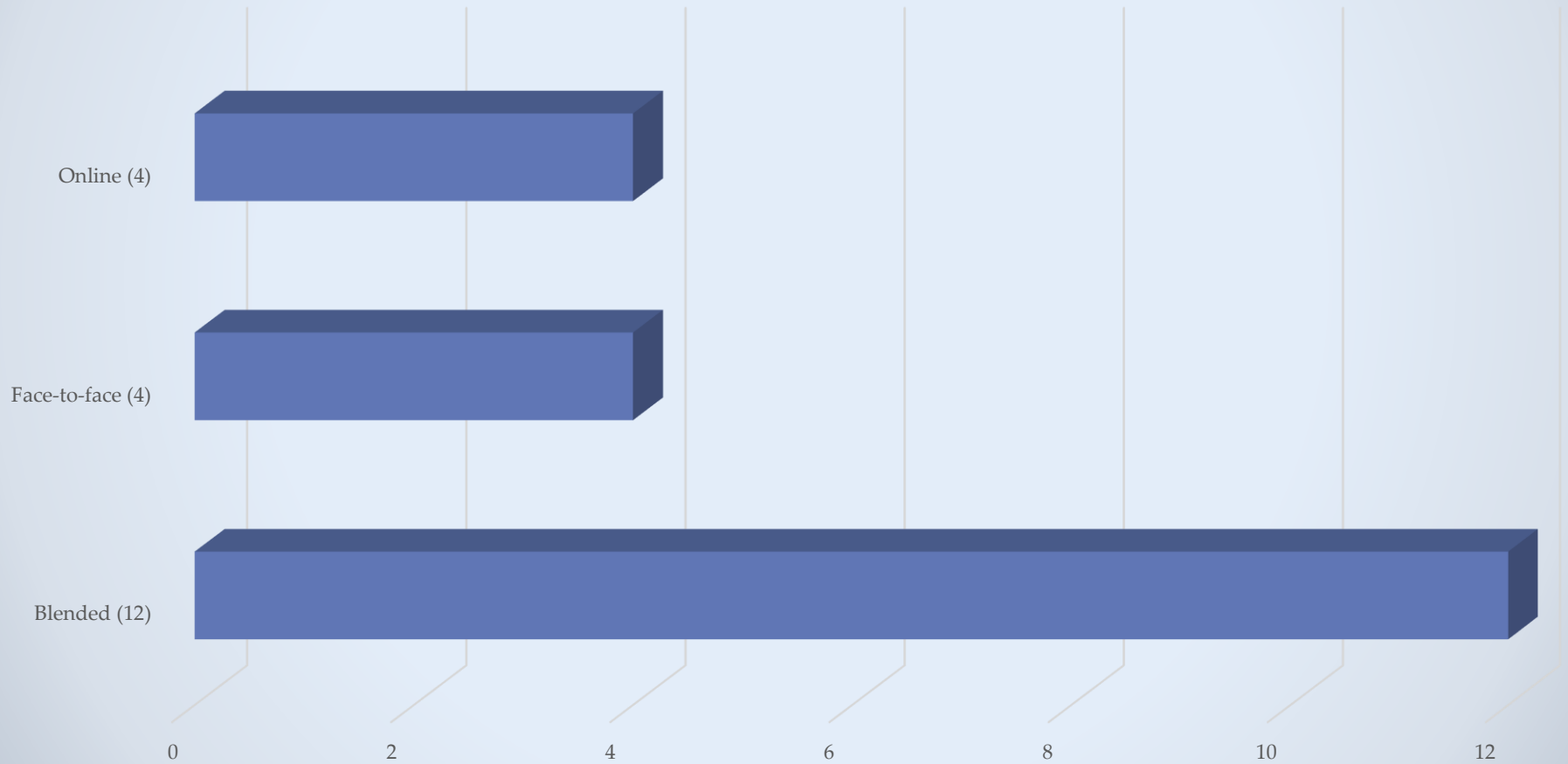
Approaching assignments

Writing personal statements

Responding to feedback

Using formal and objective language

Method of delivery



Existing collaboration

- Partnership approach
- Planning and delivery
- **AWC:** writing
- **Lecturer:** subject-specific content
- **Working in tandem – in-class**



Further collaboration

- Continuation of collaboration
 - Creation of workshops for lecturers
 - Guide lecturers on incorporating good essay structure into modules
 - Guide lecturers on delivering effective feedback to learners



Recommendations

Partnership approach key – avoids conflicting feedback, reinforces role of AWC (Ma, 2019)

Tailored presentations

Seminars for lecturers – guidance on delivering feedback and essay structure

Learning community – AWC, lecturers, learners

Academic writing support embedded into learning – overcome negative perception



References

- Connolly, E. (2022) Examining students' preferences for method of delivery of academic writing support at TUS (Midlands), *Education Reference Guide*, 42 – 43.
- Ma, L. P. F. (2019) Academic writing support through individual consultations: EAL doctoral student experiences and evaluation, *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 43, 72 – 79.

Thank you
for listening