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ACADEMIC WRITING IN HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES PREDICAMENTS AND PROSPECTS

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Conference Abstract

Students' Perceptions on the Main Difficulties Encountered in Article Writing.

Case of English Postgraduate Students at Oran2 University.

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Abstract

There is no doubt that writing a challenging task. In fact, researches have shown that there exist lot of difficulties encountered by English students when it comes to academic writing, and particularly, article writing by non-native English speakers. Thus, the focal aim of this study is to get insight into Algerian PhD students' experiences in article writing. To this end, the study explored students' perceptions of the difficulties and challenges encountered throughout the course of article writing. A questionnaire is used as a research instrument in order to gather data from 15 postgraduate PhD students, deliberately selected from the English Department at Oran2 University. Research outcomes indicate that the process of article writing is challenging due to socio-economic, academic as well as linguistic difficulties. Among the main challenges is the lack of academic writing skills and the restricted expertise about article writing and deficiencies in conducting researches. To face these challenges, a set of pedagogical suggestions are presented for the sake of getting rid of the challenges, on the one side, and promote PhD students' academic skills on the other.

Keywords: Article writing, Algerian PhD students, linguistic difficulties, socioeconomic challenges, scientific research.