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**FEATURES OF THE ACADEMIC ESSAY FROM A  
MULTILINGUAL PERSPECTIVE**

*The paper substantiates the benefits of studying the features of academic essays in different languages and opens the prospects for further study in this direction. The authors compare the features of academic essays in English and German by highlighting differences in terms of sentence structure, vocabulary, grammar, and register. Studying the characteristic traits of academic essays in multiple languages, as exemplified by English and German, helps to improve students' writing skills. This will lead to enhanced cognitive and creative abilities, increase students' ability to communicate with a wider audience, and will ultimately ensure competitive advantages in the job market. Further research is needed to develop teaching resources to acquire academic essay writing skills in multiple languages and facilitate the process of writing.*

**Key words:** *academic essay, multilingual environment, language and cultural context, writing skills, English, German.*

*У статті обґрунтовано доцільність вивчення особливостей академічного есе в різних мовах та окреслено перспективи подальших досліджень у цьому напрямі. Представлено основні лексичні, граматичні, синтаксичні й стилістичні відмінності академічного есе в англійській та німецькій мовах. Наголошено, що вивчення особливостей академічного есе в різних мовах створює підґрунтя для застосування належних методичних підходів з метою вдосконалення у студентів навичок письма у багатомовну*

*середовищі, що уможливить їхнє спілкування з більш широкою аудиторією, підвищить конкурентоспроможність на ринку праці, сприятиме особистісному зростанню, розвитку пізнавальних і творчих здібностей. Перспективи досліджень полягають у подальшому вивченні особливостей академічного есе в різних мовах з метою розробки відповідних навчальних матеріалів для здобувачів освіти.*

**Ключові слова:** *академічне есе, багатомовне середовище, мовний і культурний контекст, навички письма, англійська мова, німецька мова.*

In today's academic environment, writing essays is one of the essential tasks students learn to accomplish during their degree course. Academic essay writing still is an indispensable aspect of higher education, requiring students to demonstrate their critical thinking, research, and writing skills, as well as an understanding of a particular topic or concept. In this context, scholars argue that along with language proficiency, the so-called "academic literacy" is of paramount importance [3; 7; 9].

As the world becomes more globalized, communication among individuals from different linguistic backgrounds is increasingly common. This is especially true in academia, where research is conducted and disseminated across geographical borders and in various languages, admittedly with English as the *lingua franca*. Hence, learners of English as a second or further language get acquainted with the features of academic essays in English, as they influence the clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness of any research. Students of German learn to cultivate sensitivity towards the language in general, and an awareness of register, semantics and style in particular with the aim to produce a coherent argumentation in written German.

Academic essays are written to convey ideas and research findings, and to persuade the reader of a particular argument or point of view [1; 6]. Therefore, academic essays must be well-researched, well-structured, and well-written. The

aim is to provide a clear and convincing argument that is supported by relevant evidence and examples. However, the features of academic essays differ across languages, which can pose a challenge to students and researchers who write in more than one language [4; 5; 8]. Studying the features of academic essays in different languages can help in developing the necessary skills to write effective academic essays in a multilingual environment [2; 7].

There are some notable differences between academic essay writing in English and German. English academic essays are characterized by their use of clear, direct, and concise language that is free from ambiguity. They may also include headings and subheadings to make the text more reader friendly. German academic essays, on the other hand, tend to be more complex in terms of sentence structure and use of vocabulary. Unlike English academic essays, they may include long sentences that might require close reading and careful analysis. Additionally, German has a more complex grammatical structure with certain aspects characteristic for formal written language.

It is worth noting that academic essay writing in English and German requires different approaches and techniques. For example, English academic essays often prioritize clarity and conciseness, while German academic essays may place a greater emphasis on precision and detail. Hence, when writing academic essays in either language, it is important to be aware of these differences and to adapt one's writing style accordingly. Understanding these differences is essential for students to successfully navigate the academic writing expectations in each language and thus produce high-quality academic essays in both languages.

We believe that academic essay writing in English and German is a challenging but rewarding endeavor that can provide students with a range of personal as well as professional benefits. In addition to being able to communicate effectively with peers and academics from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, students can also gain a competitive edge in the job market by

demonstrating proficiency in multiple languages. In an increasingly globalized and interconnected world, the ability to communicate effectively in multiple languages is an asset in many fields, particularly in those areas that involve international business or cross-cultural communication. Moreover, the ability to write academic essays in multiple languages can also contribute to personal growth and self-improvement. By developing the skills and strategies necessary for academic writing in both English and German, students can gain a deeper understanding of different cultures and disciplines, expand their knowledge and perspectives, and enhance their overall cognitive and creative abilities.

Thus, comparing the features of academic essays in English and German can provide insights into the different approaches to teaching effective academic writing in both languages. This can aid learners in developing the necessary skills to write effective academic essays in different languages, thereby increasing their ability to communicate with a wider audience. Although academic essay writing in both English and German can be challenging for non-native speakers, with due practice and proper guidance, students can develop the necessary skills to produce high-quality academic essays in both languages. Being able to write academic essays in English and German, and, of course, other languages, can expand students' opportunities for academic exchange, international collaborations, and research partnerships. Further research is needed to develop teaching resources, e.g., guidelines, study guides, textbooks, etc., in order to acquire academic essay writing skills in multiple languages and facilitate the process of writing.

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