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Acquisition of academic literacy: A case study of a novice researcher

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Academic research articles need to comply with five key linguistic criteria, namely accuracy, brevity, clarity, objectivity and formality. This case study describes and reflects on the process through which academic literacy was developed. Changes made by a mentee based on mentor feedback were tracked. The mentee and mentor separately explained the rationale for the changes. These explanations were compared and contrasted. Ways to improve the efficacy of the mentoring process were identified. One such way is to conduct an assumption audit early on the writing process to identify differences and align expectations early in the writing process.

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