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# **The feedback awakens: enhancing writing revision with e-portfolios**

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Do you have problems motivating students to rewrite?

What strategies have you used to address this?



# Research question + action taken

Q: What effects do e-portfolios have on students' academic writing?

Action: Weekly writing task using



Wikispaces





# Students' e-portfolio homepages

**Welcome to Audrey's home page.**

Hello. I am Audrey. My major is Finance. Welcome to my page :)



## **Pages in this project**

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[Argument Essay1](#)  
[Discussion essay1](#)  
[Problem solution essay 2](#)



## discussion essay 500

Edit 35 3

As technology continues to develop, energy issues have been paid more attentions. Australia now has developed the usage of coal to produce energy rather than explore the alternative fuels. Alternative fuels refer to the energies which have low pollution and high efficiency such as solar energy, wind energy and wave energy. This essay will discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the diversification of energy sources in Australia. It will consider the influences for both coals and renewable energy.

There are numerous benefits associated with diversification of energy sources. First and foremost, alternative diversification of energy sources can not produce energy, but also have less pollution. According to NICHOLS (2009), there are a large number of approaches that can be explored and replace coal such as bountiful wind, sun, hydro, wave, geothermal and biomass reserves, as well as creating a diverse clean energy economy. Secondly, greenhouse gas emissions have become one of the most serious issues in the world, and the source of issues are related with coal. Nichols (2009) claims that coal must be phased out in Australia, because it is single biggest polluter and produce a third of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions, however, one of solutions are the development of natural gas. Natural gas is a clean energy, and it is simple to get. According to Rory (2008), natural gas has lower greenhouse gas and other emissions; it is as an energy source has considerable environmental benefits over both coal and oil. This aspect is supposed to be promoted and in the future it could become main energy resource in Australia. While there are a number of new resources like natural gas which should be explored nowadays, if in the future these new energy sources replace the traditional approach, they not only solve problems about the pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, but also promote to the development of economy in Australia.

However, diversification of energy sources in Australia also has its challenges. First of all, developing alternative energy sources will decrease the economy in Australia. Sinclair (2009) claims that black coal nowadays as the largest source of primary energy in Australia. **Because of present population and the needs of consumption of present population**, coal has large reserves which are easily accessible to support the consumption of present population. Experts predict that beyond the 21st century coal reserves in Australasia are added and promote the economic development in 21st. Nevertheless, if coal is replaced by new energy, it could secondly, alternative diversification energy sources nowadays as a step which should be explored on them. According to the Australia Coal Association (2011), the industry of Australia's coal is worth billions of dollars.

In conclusion, in terms of decreasing the pollution and greenhouse emission, and the challenges for decreasing the benefits and drawbacks for alternative energy sources. In the future, Australia government should develop alternative energy sources, and promote development of economy in Australia.

Add Discussion

3

2

2

2

2

1

1

2

1

there is no relation with the topic sentence

fengyubo May 7, 2015

I want to use this sentence to draw out the ideas in next sentences

Reply

Post



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# Discussion between peer-reviewer, original author and teacher

In conclusion,. There are both benefits and drawbacks for alternative energy sources in terms of decreasing pollution and green house emission, and the challenges which are crippling the Australian economy. it can be conclude that benefits outweigh than risks. In the future, Australia government should decrease risk which are caused by coal and **continue to develop** new sources, and promote development of economy in Australia.

 Add Discussion

 Simon993 May 7, 2015

continuously develop...

 fengyubo May 7, 2015

i think it is right

 jamesteacher May 7, 2015

it should be 'continue to develop'

3   
1 

# Data collected

## Students' writing and feedback on Wikispaces

**Problem solution essay 2** Edit 5 4 ...

ShengDali Apr 30, 2015 ← Older Version Newer Version →

Highlight Changes (Deleted, Inserted)  View WikiText  Review Changes  Revert to This Version

Study related stress is generally acknowledged as a major problem for students. However, providing effective solutions to solve this problem seems to be a significant challenge. This essay will explain the common causes of study related stress and suggest some viable alleviation strategies. It will be demonstrated by focusing on restructuring the exam system and closer cooperation between tertiary ~~institution~~ institutions ~~and~~ and companies.

There are a number of factors which are recognised to contribute to study related stress. First and foremost, exams might be the most common cause of stress for students. This ~~means that is because~~ means that is because all students want to pass their exams while, sometimes, it may be very difficult due to their limited abilities. These students who are worried about the results of exams will feel ~~stressful stressed~~ stressful stressed, leading to many physical problems, such as headaches and insomnia. In addition to exams, uncertain future employment might also be a factor *that/which* leads to stress. Once students think that there is no guarantee for their future career, they might lose the interest in their subjects or even abandon studies altogether.

Study related stress cannot be eliminated completely but it can be alleviated. A solution to this problem may be to restructure the exam system. For instance, changing the weighting of exams might be helpful for reducing stress for students. Although it is true to say that it is complex for government to change its exam system, it seems to be ~~worth worthwhile if~~ worth worthwhile if compared with the benefits created by the less stress studying environment. Furthermore, promoting the cooperation between colleges and companies or government is also an effective way to alleviate stress for students ~~;~~ ; Despite the fact that additional costs may be invested by the companies and governments, it could be argued that it offers a potential labor source for themselves. ~~If students know that they could be employed once they graduated from universities, there might be no so much pressure.~~ If students know that they could be employed once they graduated from universities, there might be no so much pressure.

In conclusion, study related stress should be recognised as a significant problem requiring attention from both students and society. There are various causes of this problem, such as exams and uncertain future employment. However, it could be alleviated by ~~making implementing related related~~ making implementing related related solutions. And in this way, by changing exam system and promoting the cooperation between colleges and companies, its damaging effects can be minimised.

### Dali

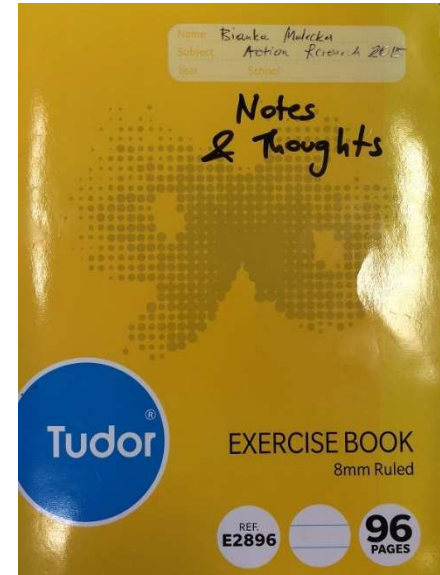
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## Revision history



# Data collected

Three focus group discussions



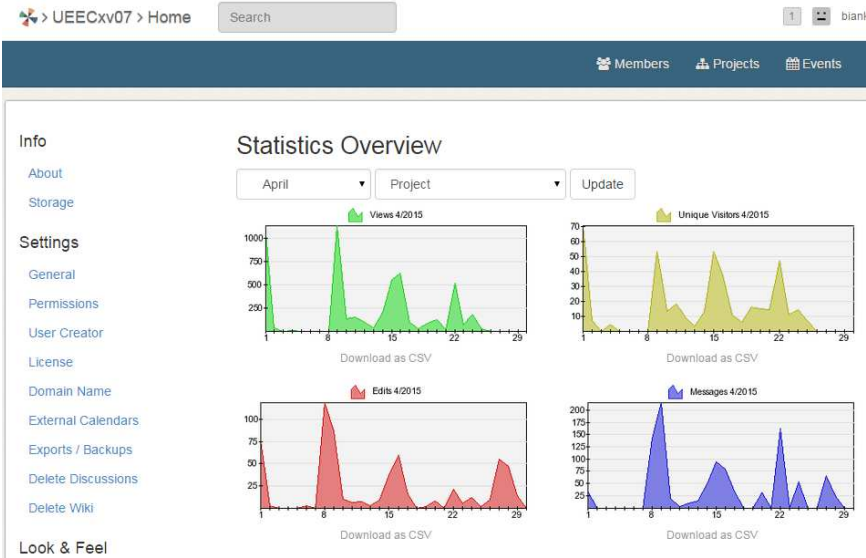
Teacher observations  
and reflective journals

## WEEK 2, Journal Friday, 27 March 2015, 8:41 PM

In UEEC20, I learned a lot about grammar and I wrote some summaries which were corrected by my classmates. Moreover, I found some academic words about my future course. **Peer feedback is the most helpful method for my English writing. It can not only help others to correct their writing but also improve my English grammar.**

Students' reflective learning journal entries

# Data collected



## Engagement data from Wikispaces

### Using Wikispaces has helped me improve my writing

	Strongly agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	42.86% 15	51.43% 18	5.71% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	35	1.63

### Two surveys



**Quiet**  
exams in progress

### Official assessment results

## Findings: feedback & rewriting

“In Wikispaces I can review my essay and find the mistakes that I have made and maybe next time I will not make the same mistakes.”

“I can add more information [on Wikispaces], maybe I can make a new idea ....It has give me good chance to rewrite for three times, four times.”

## Findings: motivation


- value for future studies

“Wikispaces improved my typing and my father when he heard me write in computer he said, ‘oh lord, this is not my daughter!’”



## Findings: motivation

- autonomous learning



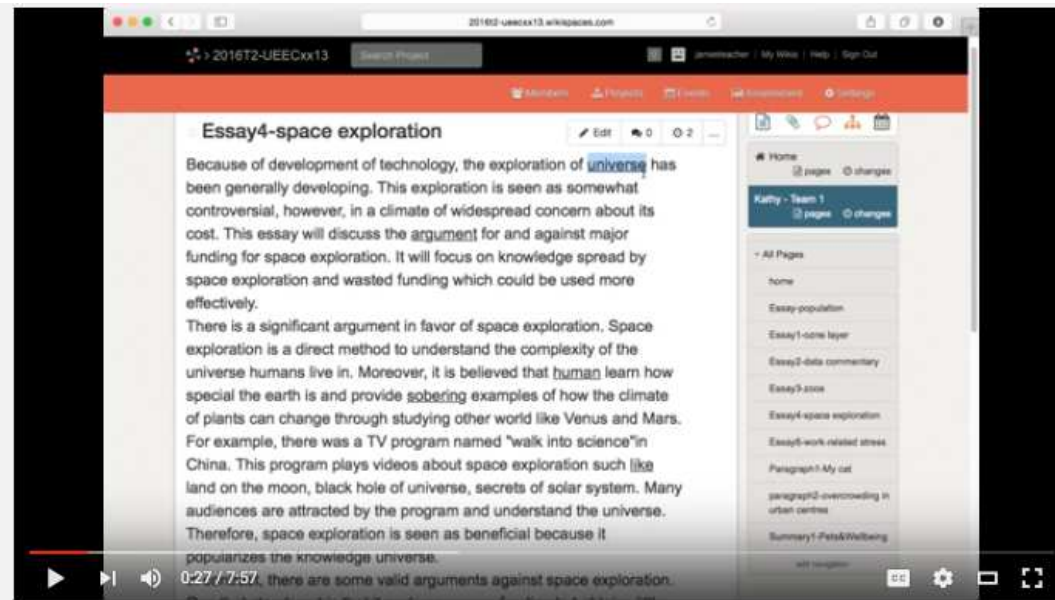
“I wanted to improve my grammar so I read my comments again, and other students’ comments.”

# Conclusion and reflections

- 94% of students felt that the project helped improve their writing
- Action Research experience
- Other contexts

# The adventure continues...

- Video feedback



# References:

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- Truscott, J (2007) The effect of error correction on learners' ability to write accurately, *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 16 (4), 255-272.



# Thank you!

- Find a guide on how to use Wikispaces at [www.eltideas.com](http://www.eltideas.com)

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