Joint Meeting
of the EALTA Special Interest Groups Assessment of Writing and Assessment for Academic Purposes

Friday, 17 November & Saturday, 18 November, 2017
University of Bremen, Germany

PROGRAMME

Friday, 17 November

9.30-10.00  Registration and Welcome

10.00-17.00  Workshop on Source-Based Writing Assessment
Atta Gebril, American University of Cairo, Egypt

There is growing interest in the use of source-based tasks for assessing writing, especially in academic settings. Source-based tasks refer to these activities that require students to use external materials in their writing. This trend is supported by recent research that has shown a strong relationship between source-based tasks and assignments required in university classes. Source-based tasks also offer background knowledge to writers as they use ideas from external materials while writing. However, such tasks come with a host of challenges related to design and scoring. Questions at the heart of this issue include: What are we testing in source-based tasks? Writing skills, or a combination of writing and other skills? What are the criteria for selecting external sources? How many sources should we use with a writing task? What is the nature of task instructions? How should source-based writing be scored? How should we address problems related to inappropriate textual borrowing practices? These questions will be the focus of this workshop. The presenter will provide participants with hands-on experiences that could help them design their own assessment tasks. As part of the workshop, the presenter will share sample materials with participants, including source-based writing tasks and scoring rubrics. Finally, the presenter will offer ideas for action research projects that writing instructors can conduct in their classes.
Saturday, 18 November

9.00-9.20 Is EAP students’ use of assigned source texts different when writing in exam conditions as opposed to writing at home?
Emma Bruce, University of Bedfordshire, UK

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.

9.35-9.55 Extending the cooperation between EAP instructors and faculty lecturers in developing rating scales in order to increase the validity of source-based writing assessment
Nükte Durhan, Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus, Turkey

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.

10:10-10.30 A multi-method approach to scale development
Zeynep Aksit, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.

10:45-11.15 Coffee Break

11.15-11.35 A corpus-based approach to operationalizing and assessing writing proficiency in the academic register: The case of reporting verbs
Marcus Callies, University of Bremen, Germany

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.

11:50-12.10 Instruments to assess skills of academic translation from Ukrainian into English
Tamara Kavytska & Andrej Kawicki, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.

12.25-13.00 Lunch Break

13.00-13.20 The use of paratext in literary contexts for writing tasks assessment
Julia de las Mercedes Mairs Samuel, Manuel Montejo Lorenzo, University of Camagüey, Cuba & Lut Baten, KU Leuven University of Leuven, Belgium

Questions & discussion: 15 mins.
13.35-14.15 Open Discussion

14.15-14.30 Closing: Wrap-up & Evaluation