# **ACADEMIC ENGLISH PROGRAMME**

**Academic Language Webinars** 

# Dissertation Writing webinars

University of

Reading

\*N.B. Some of these sessions have been stipulated for specific sets of disciplines, either **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) or **Social Sciences** (e.g. disciplines such as Business, Politics and International Relations, Applied Linguistics and Education).

# Dissertations: Language for The Literature Review (all disciplines)

Central reasons for citing sources in your Literature Review include to summarise and exemplify research trends, to compare or contrast scholarly arguments, and to evaluate previous research. This session takes these functions as a starting point to teach key language for reviewing literature.

# **Dissertations: Language for Methods (STEM & Social Sciences)**

A good Method chapter explains the components and stages within a research procedure with precision and clarity, providing convincing justifications for decisions made. This session teaches grammatical patterns, vocabulary, and phrases for successfully describing and rationalising the 'action' of your study.

### **Dissertations: Language for Results (STEM)**

Sequence, Frequency, Quantity and Causality (Glasman-Deal, 2010) are key concepts for a scientific Results chapter. This session will use examples from a range of disciplines to explicate the language for each.

### **Dissertations: Language for Results (Social Sciences)**

This session focuses on useful language for reporting, exemplifying, and making initial comments about the data obtained in a Social Sciences study, including language for referring to and commenting on visual information.

### **Dissertations: Language for Discussion (all disciplines)**

The Discussion chapter is where you construct arguments about the meaning of your results and say how they relate to the wider research field. This session looks at verb tense in a Discussion, language for strengthening or weakening claims, and language for comparing your results with previous research.