

Acknowledgements

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Introduction

Essentials of Basic Writing is a vital preparatory book for students who are bound to take advanced writing courses and activities. Following the aims of the course as outlined in the syllabus approved by the Ministry of Higher Education Research and Technology, and adding the new trends of thoughts proposed by writing specialists, which are believed to be a must for writing beginners and are highly observed in this book. This book as a teaching material will prove to be very useful in improving and in bringing out the students' natural abilities to write.

This book embodies the basic necessities students must know to be able to learn how to write efficiently. Fundamental among them are the appropriate words to use. Students must, from the very beginning of their writing course, be familiar about diction. They should know when connotation is appropriate and they must also be familiar with words and expressions they have to avoid. Also, students must not have the wrong notion that figurative language must be memorized. This is because figure of speech is formed in the deep recesses of one's mind, and familiarity with them is an indication of one's knowledge of the English language. The Chapter on "words" is followed by how these words may be formed into sentences. But, are sentences formed with words enough? Definitely, writing requires that the writer provides variety. Variety in writing sentences is discussed with ample examples. For instance, the following are explained: coordination, subordination, fronted topic, end-weight principle, to name only a few. Knowledge of these strategies will certainly result in a piece of

writing that is interesting to read. Finally, the third Chapter begins with guided paragraph writing. This will enable the students to work independently, and yet properly guided, which will make them move smoothly towards totally independent writing. Hence, the different types of paragraphs are also discussed, their structures, organizations, the transition words that are suitable for each type and sufficient examples are also presented.

The author of this book used excerpts from professional writers as examples, so that the students will have idea of how these writers express them. Though, students are not expected to write like them, being exposed to their work, in addition to the discussion in this book, will be a good start.

It might be worth mentioning also that so far, there is no book available that suits the needs of the basic writing course for the Iranian Students.

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