


**BIO001– Introduction to Biology
Assignment Instructions**



Assignment Instructions

Write an essay on your chosen topic

The essay should be no more than 1000 words and must be original

Due Date: Geelong students 13th May 2013

Burwood students 15th May 2013

*To be handed in during class and submitted to the portal

Essay Topics

- Your Essay will explore the effect of an introduced/exotic species on Australian Ecosystems
- You need to pick one of the species below as your essay topic
 - Cane Toads (*Bufo marinus*)
 - Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculas*)
 - Prickly Pear (*Opuntia* spp.)

Assignment Instructions

Your essay should include the following topics:

- Why was this species introduced to Australia?
- When was this species introduced and at which location?
- What is the current distribution of this species? (Included a Map)
- How has the introduction of this species effected native plants and animals? How has it effected Australian Ecosystems
- What management options are available to eradicate or control populations of this introduced species?

Why was this species introduced to Australia?

- What was the purpose of introducing this species?
 - Was it to control another species (Biological control)?
 - For sport (hunting)?
 - Was it accidental?

When was this species introduced and at which location?

- Include the scientific name of the species (don't forget to put it in Italics, Genus name has a capital, species name does not)
- What year was this species introduced? You may even be able to find out who introduced the species.
- Which location in Australia was the species first introduced to?

What is the current distribution of this species? (Included a Map)

- Where do you currently find this species in Australia?
- Has the distribution changed since its introduction to Australia?
- Maps - When you include maps make sure you include
 - Border
 - North Arrow
 - Legend/Key
 - Descriptive Title
 - Scale
 - Source (reference where you got the map or information from)

How has the introduction of this species effected native plants and animals? How has it effected Australian Ecosystems

- Has the introduced species been linked to the extinction of native animals or plants?
- How has the introduced species effected Australian ecosystems?
 - Changed trophic structures
 - Has it effected soils?

What management options are available to eradicate or control populations of this introduced species?

- How are population numbers controlled?
 - Is there a biological control? If so is it effective?
 - Exclusion zones?
 - Herbicides?
 - Culling?
- Is there any current research on any new control techniques?

Assignment Instructions

- Type all work. Make sure you use black ink and that it is legible
- Use an MIBT cover sheet
- Use size 12 font and don't change the font
- Make sure the pages are stapled together
- You may use subheadings if you like
- Support all your information with references
- Write a draft! Be prepared to re-write your work
- Proofread your work
- ALL resources used must be both **CITED** and **REFERENCED**
- Make sure you hand in a hard copy and also upload your assignment to the portal

Plagiarism

What is plagiarism?

It is the use of **ANY** sources, but presenting them as your own, that is, not showing or acknowledging your sources. It is not merely copying, but actually lying, cheating or deceiving.

What is collusion?

Working with others (eg: class-mates, friends) to produce material that is similar or identical to each other. Both parties are guilty of collusion

Penalties at MIBT

Automatic loss of marks, automatic failure of the assessment task, failure of the unit, interview with the Academic Director

Referencing

Follow this simple rule:

Any words/ideas that are not mine, but which I have found through some sort of research, much ALWAYS be acknowledged.

MIBT uses the Harvard Referencing System or author-date format

Two elements must be present in your work:

1. in-text citations
2. a reference list

Note that 1 and 2 must match!

Using Sources

So, how do you bring in what you've read? There are only three ways you can do this—by summarising, paraphrasing or quoting.

- **Summarising** is shortening a text, picking out the main points, leaving out the detail and rephrasing it in your own words.
- **Paraphrasing** is putting a short bit of text into your own words, still conveying all the detail.
- **Quoting** is using the exact words from a source. Short quotes from sources are integrated into the writer's sentence and use quotation marks. Long quotes, also known as 'block quotes', are indented in a block and set apart from the body of the writer's text.

In-text Referencing

- These are used to signal to the reader that an instance of information (either as a direct quotation or a summarized / paraphrased idea) is from a specific source.
- That data, images, etc. are shown to be from specific sources.
- That words / ideas are shown to be from sources that are distinct from **your words and ideas**.

In-text Referencing

The author–date system is so named because in the body of the writer's text, citations consist of two elements:

- the family name of the author or authors (no initials, no given names)
- the date (year of publication)

In-text Referencing

The family name of the author or authors and date can be in parentheses.

Reading widely is the best way to improve vocabulary and also to develop a sense of what academic writing in a particular discipline involves (Hay, Bochner & Dungey 1997).

↑
in-text citation

Or the family name of the author or authors can be included in your sentence.

↓
in-text citation

Hay, Bochner and Dungey (1997) explain that reading is the best way to improve vocabulary and also to develop a sense of what academic writing in a particular discipline involves.

Reference List

The purpose of the reference list is to provide full details of sources cited in text so that readers can locate them. In-text citations provide only brief details, to lead readers to full bibliographic details of sources in the reference list.

In a reference list:

- a work is entered only once, regardless of how many times it is cited in text

- entries are ordered alphabetically by the family names of authors or by the first significant word of the title (disregarding a, an or the) for works with no author.

Reference List

Book

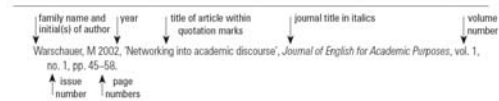
↓ family name and initial(s) of author ↓ year ↓ title and subtitle in italics ↓ edition (if not the first)

Mokey-Warner, T 2001, *Academic writing is ...: a guide to writing in a university context*, 2nd edn, CREA Publications, University of Technology Sydney, Lindfield, NSW.

↑ publisher ↑ city ↑ state (for relatively unknown city)

Reference List

Journal article



Reference List

Web resources (authored)

Examples

Australian Council of National Trusts 2002, *Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander heritage policy*, Australian Council of National Trusts, retrieved 21 July 2004, <www.nationaltrust.org.au/pdfs/acnt1.pdf>.

The Cancer Council Australia 2004, *National cancer prevention policy 2004-06*, The Cancer Council Australia, retrieved 28 July 2004, <www.cancer.org.au/documents/NatCancerPreventPol_04-06.pdf>.

Dave, K 2002, *Future of publishing*, Project Gutenberg, retrieved 18 July 2004, <www.promo.net/pg/kushal.html>.

Reference List

Web resources (no author)

In the case of no author being identified, the title moves to the author position and the date comes after the title details.

Examples

Geelong wine region—Melbourne 2004, Great Wine Capitals Global Network, retrieved 20 July 2004, <www.greatwinecapitals.com/melbourne/mel_reg_geel.html>.

Ginkgo biloba (Ginkgoaceae) 2004, The Vitamins and Nutrition Centre, retrieved 20 July 2004, <www.vitamins-nutrition.org/vitamins-guide/ginkgo-biloba-ginkgoaceae.html>.

Referencing

- Wikipedia is not a source!
- Anyone who includes Wikipedia as a reference will get 0 for referencing!!

Assignment Instructions

Assessments submitted after the due date, (without prior approval) will incur a penalty of 5% per working day that the assignment is overdue. Assignments that are more than one week late, will be awarded 0%. Exemptions may be made in exceptional circumstances.