

The International Student's

Academic Survival Toolkit



Dictionaries

Bilingual dictionary: gives equivalent words from two languages.

Collocation dictionary: gives words that are often positioned together.

English Learner's dictionary: primarily intended for those learning English as an additional language, but very useful for all.

Pronunciation dictionary: gives a phonetic version of the word.

Spelling dictionary: gives correct spellings as well as frequently misspelt versions with the correct spelling alongside.

Subject-specific dictionaries: provide specialist terms, their pronunciation and examples of their use.

English thesaurus: provides synonyms and antonyms (you can find a free online thesaurus at www.dictionary.com).

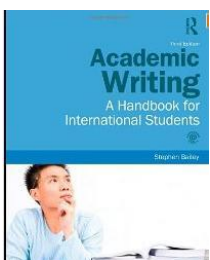
Adapted from McMillan, K. and Weyers, J. (2010) *Study Skills for International Students: A Handbook for Studying in the UK*. Harlow; NY: Prentice Hall.



Handbooks for International Students

- McMillan, K. and Weyers, J. (2010) *Study Skills for International Students: A Handbook for Studying in the UK*. Harlow; NY: Prentice Hall.

- Bailey, S. (2011) *Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students*. 3rd ed. London: Routledge.



TIP: Avoid over-reliance on:

- × Pocket translators
- × Google translate

For information please contact us on 028 9097 3618 or email lds@qub.ac.uk

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/lds>

Recording device

Make use of a recording device such as a dictaphone, laptop, iPod Touch, iPhone or other smartphone to record lectures or tutorial discussion so you can listen back and make notes or use for revision. Remember to ask permission from your lecturer or tutor first, but they will usually be happy for you to do so.

Time management tools

TIP:

If you're having difficulty with an essay or assignment, try recording yourself explaining the issue in English (alone or to a friend), then listen back and write it down to help generate ideas. Many international students find it easier and more natural to discuss an issue verbally in English than to write in English.



- **Diary or student planner**

Keep track of your day-to-day schedule and deadlines for university work.

- **Study timetables and revision timetables**

Create a detailed timetable of study when you have a big task, exam or assignment looming.

- **Project or research notebook**

Record ideas, note important references and data. Note down questions for your tutor ahead of classes.

- **Mobile phone**

Make use of calendar or to-do list apps built into many mobile phones.

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Here to help:

- **Your Academic Advisor**
- **Your Module tutor/convenor**
- **INTO @ QUB** (enquiries@into.uk.com)
- **Learning Development Service** (lds@qub.ac.uk)
- **International Student Support team** (iss@qub.ac.uk)
- **Counselling Service** (counsellingappointments@qub.ac.uk)

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