

The Influence of Corrective Feedback on Academic Writing Improvement

Consent to Participate

Introduction

Developing academic writing skills can be challenging for students of all ages. There is conflicting research on the optimal methods for helping individuals improve their writing skills. The methods range from high-level feedback with suggestions for improvement to detailed corrective feedback, where the writers are shown exactly where they have made errors and how to correct them. However, the correlation between the time investment in these methods and their overall benefits is unclear. Your child is invited to participate in a research study about the influence of different forms of corrective feedback on a student's academic writing skills.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this research study is to understand the benefits of different writing feedback methods on improvements in language use, mechanics, and vocabulary relative to the time it takes instructors to provide the feedback and the student's ability to understand and implement the feedback.

3 Study Procedures

If you give permission for your child to be part of the research study, they will be asked to participate in a writing assignment and an interview on their experience.

For the writing assignment, your child will be invited to bring a laptop to one of several scheduled timeslots on the SCSU campus, where they will be asked to write a short passage (200-250 words) on one of several generic pop culture topics. They will have one hour to complete the passage. They will then email the passage to the researcher. Four to six weeks later, your child will be invited to bring their laptop to another scheduled timeslot, where they will receive feedback on their writing and will be asked to revise their passage. They will have one hour for their revision before emailing it to the researcher. The total time commitment for the writing portion of this research is three hours.

Two to three weeks after your revision is submitted, the researcher will schedule a 30-minute Zoom meeting with your child at a mutually convenient time. The meeting will be recorded, and the researcher will ask them about their experiences with the writing exercise and the feedback they received.

5 Benefits

There are several potential benefits of this research. Your child will receive personalized feedback on their writing, which may help them develop their academic writing skills. More broadly, this research may help writing instructors understand the relative benefits of providing their students with different forms of feedback.

6 Risks and Discomforts

Participation in this research should involve no risks to your child beyond what they would encounter in their daily life.

7 Data Confidentiality

The data collected will remain confidential. All data will be stored in a password-protected computer accessible only to the researcher. All interview transcriptions will be de-identified. Your child's name will never be used, and all potentially identifying information will be removed from any direct quotes used in reporting. A pseudonym will be used for direct quotes. The data from this research will not be used or shared with other researchers for future research. The video recording will be used only to record and analyze data. All data will be destroyed after three years.

10 Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal

Participating in this study is completely voluntary. Your decision whether or not to allow your child to participate will not affect your or your child’s current or future relations with St. Cloud State University or the researcher. If you allow your child to participate, you can withdraw them at any time without penalty.

11 Contact Information

If you have questions about this research study, you may contact the researcher, John Johnston at 612-234-4567 or jjjohnston@stcloudstate.edu. If you have questions or concerns about your child’s rights as a research subject, you may contact the SCSU Institutional Review Board Chair at wccollisprather@stcloudstate.edu. You may contact the researcher if you are interested in the study results.

12 Compensation

If your child participates, they will be compensated with a \$20 Amazon gift card (or an alternative of their choosing) after the interview.

13a Consent

Your signature indicates that you are at least 18 years of age, are the parent or legal guardian of the child participant of this study, have read the information provided above, and consent to allow your child to participate.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Name

13b Minor Participant Assent

Your child’s signature indicates their agreement to participate in this research.

Signature of Study Participant

Date

Name