SPEAK & INSPIRE
WRITE & ASPIRE
by Chuah Kee Man
Choose to Choose

ICAN'T
"You are free to make your choices but you are not free to choose the consequences."

aynadjah(s)
LET’S INSPIRE...
INSPIRE

Ignite The Confidence Within
Never Hide Yourself
Say it clearly and correctly
Prepare Early
Ignore the “scary eyes”
Repeat, repeat, repeat
Energise Yourself

(Chuah, 2014)
IGNITE THE CONFIDENCE WITHIN
“DOUBT KILLS MORE DREAMS THAN FAILURE EVER WILL.”
Your Comfort Zone → Where the magic happens
“Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice.” -Steve Jobs
NEVER HIDE YOURSELF
Take every chance.
Drop every fear.
SAY IT CLEARLY & CORRECTLY
“Speak clearly, if you speak at all; carve every word before you let it fall.”
- Oliver Wendell Holmes
CONFIDENCE IS PREPARATION. EVERYTHING ELSE IS BEYOND YOUR CONTROL.

RICHARD KLINE
IGNORE THE SCARY EYES
People are just people, they shouldn't make you nervous.
REPEAT, REPEAT & REPEAT
Inhale.
Exhale.
Repeat.
We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.

Aristotle
ENERGISE YOURSELF
TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY.
IT'S THE ONLY PLACE YOU HAVE TO LIVE IN.
So, are your INSPIRED to speak now?
LET'S ASPIRE...
ASPIRE

A – Academic (Professional) Voice
S – Scholarly Citations & References
P – Precise Descriptions
I – In-depth Elaborations
R – Reduce Redundancies
E – Effective Structure

(Chuah, 2010)
WHEN YOU HEAR THE
VOICES
DO THEY TALK TO YOU
OR ABOUT YOU

#1 ACADEMIC VOICE
ACADEMIC VOICE

1. Avoid Pretentiousness
2. Be clear & straightforward
3. Formal and objective language
4. Use technical terms when necessary
ACADEMIC VOICE — NO PRETENTIOUSNESS

1. “Size” doesn’t matter — “bigger words” does not mean better.

2. Use suitable words to “express” your thoughts, not to “impress” misleadingly.

3. Technical words can be used when they are necessary or when writing to the correct readers.
1. Be clear & straightforward (Avoid “flowery” languages)

2. Formal and objective language (avoid “spoken” words and personal pronouns*)
   What about the use of “I” or “We”?

3. Avoid contractions (Spell out the words in full) — contraction = spoken words.
#2 SCHOLARLY CITATIONS & REFERENCES
Whaddya mean all my facts are wrong?!?

I copied everything straight off the internet!!
1. Use only reliable and reputable sources (books and journals especially).

2. As much as you can, minimize referring too much to “webpages” (excluding online journals). — Use them to develop your understanding.

5Cs GUIDE TO PARAPHRASING

1. **Comprehend** — Understand the statement
2. **Change** — modify words/grammar
3. **Combine** (if possible) — combine ideas
4. **Check** — check if the meaning is the same
5. **Cite** — Don’t forget to still cite.

(Chuah, 2010)
#3 PRECISE DESCRIPTIONS
1. Avoid giving vague descriptions or too many personal opinions. Unless the type of writing is opinion-based.

2. Provide facts or evidences whenever possible

3. Use cautious language when trying to make a claim.
IN-DEPTH ELABORATIONS

1. Elaborate your points based on the references/materials use and not merely listing them out.

2. Aim to “convince” your readers not to “confuse” them.

3. Avoid over-using “This means that…”

4. Use phrases or expressions which are more persuasive.
#5 REDUCE REDUNDANCIES
Avoid **redundancies** or using words/ phrases with repeated meanings or overused words.

Examples of redundancies:

- past history, free gifts, attach together, brief summary, true facts, etc.
- At the present moment in time....
- By definition, this means that the word implies
Some idioms/expressions are good but when they are overused, it becomes “annoying”

Malaysians’ Favourite clichés:

1. in this globalized/ICT era
2. in the society nowadays
3. by hook or by crook
4. part and parcel
5. cooperation from all parties
#6 EFFECTIVE STRUCTURE
EFFECTIVE STRUCTURE

1. Structure is very important – it helps your reader to focus and present your points/arguments clearly.

2. Always ensure your introduction is clear.

3. May change according to types of writing.

4. Effective structure is not just about combining all paragraphs, it is ensuring the ideas flow in the correct way.
Everyone owns a mobile phone these days. It is impossible to see a person without one. It seems like more and more students are using mobile phones too. The disadvantages of mobile phones are such as cause distractions and prone to abuse in schools. Examples of advantages are they serve as an emergency tool and used for educational purposes. So, there are advantages and disadvantages of mobile phones.

BAD INTRO: Unclear thesis and points are mentioned as examples.
Introduction #1b:

Much has been said about the proliferation of mobile phone usage among the students. There are in fact benefits and drawbacks of allowing students to use mobile phones in schools. It can cause distractions and prone to abuse. Nevertheless, if properly used, they serve as an emergency tool and can be maximised for learning.

Good Intro: Straightforward background info & clear thesis
ACT from the Best Within

ACTION IS THE FOUNDATIONAL KEY TO ALL SUCCESS.

Pablo Picasso
MAKE AN EFFORT, NOT AN EXCUSE...
Thank you. Questions?

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