



University of Sussex

Sussex Centre for Language Studies

Academic Writing Guide – Stage 1, Part 1

Adam talking about analysing the essay title

Sue: So you're working with this essay title about The Spy Who Came in From the Cold.

Adam: Yeah.

Sue: Tell me about the very early work you did, right at the beginning of the process where you looked at that title and tried to work out what it required of you

Adam: Yeah. I mean initially looking at the title it seemed quite a long title, um but once we started working through the first stage of the OAWG we started looking specifically at what different words might mean within that title – so 'to what extent' um 'how it reflects Cold War paranoia' um... so looking at the specific words and how they're used within that title was really beneficial for then breaking it down and knowing where to then look for kind of answers or resources

Sue: And were you then able to set off with a stronger sense of where you were going and what would be required of you throughout?

Adam: um... Absolutely – yeah once I had sort of my head around the title and what was being asked of me it then became very much easier to go and find exactly what I needed.