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How are we feeling today?

Evaluating confidence levels of students
engaging with a new study mentoring
scheme

Karen Croft: Skills for Learning Adviser

A photograph of a modern university building under a blue sky with light clouds. The building features a prominent section with a textured, golden-brown facade. To the left is a white building with vertical window slats, and to the right is a white building with horizontal window bands. In the foreground, there are trees, a street with a car, and a fence.

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Study mentoring scheme



Evaluation of pilot 2016-2017

- **Questionnaires and interviews**
- **Emphasis on students' experience**
...not the impact of the scheme
- **Limited data from mentees**

Redesign of evaluation



Develop your academic confidence with support from successful students



Adapting UX techniques



We considered:

- Love letters
- Drawing
- Mind maps

Word cloud

Excited Positive Fearless
Hopeful Capable Worried
Anxious Scared
Self-reliant Overwhelmed
Upbeat Downhearted
Independent Confident
Doubtful Unsure Hesitant
Assured Dubious
Enthusiastic Pessimistic
Afraid Optimistic Nervous

Free drawing or writing

How will you approach your next piece of academic work?

Mentor confidence measures

- Academic behaviour questionnaire
- Measuring confidence
- Adapted their questions

Sanders, P. and Sanders, L. (2009) Measuring academic behavioural confidence: the ABC scale revisited. *Studies in Higher Education*. 34 (1) pp. 19–35.

Anonymous ids

So we can compare your forms **anonymously**, please write a personal identifier which you will be able to recognise later, such as part of your first home address, or your first school or similar.

Examples: 34ChurchRoad;
CresswellSchool; 87Broadway

Your personal identifier:

.....

What happened?



What happened?

Activity 1

Circle FIVE words in the box below to describe how you are feeling about your academic work right now.

Excited Positive Fearless
Hopeful Capable Worried
Anxious Scared
Self-reliant **Overwhelmed**
Upbeat Downhearted
Independent Confident
Doubtful Unsure Hesitant
Assured Dubious
Enthusiastic Pessimistic
Afraid Optimistic Nervous

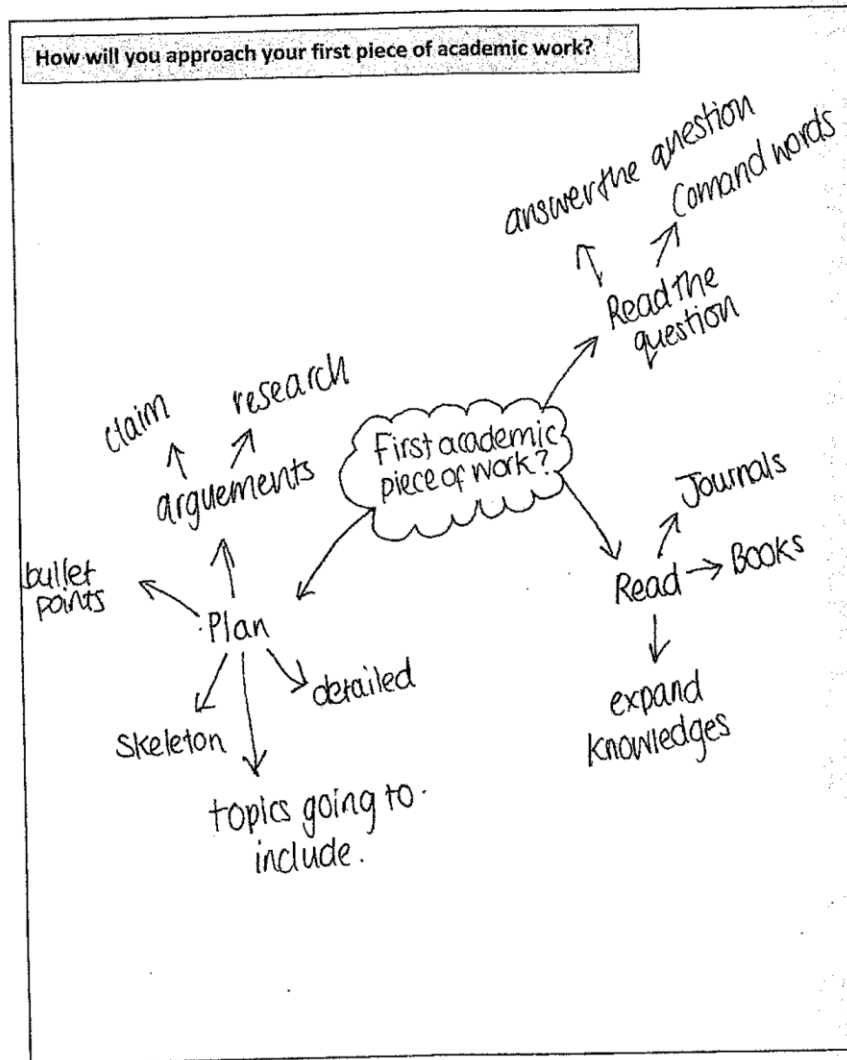
2 positive
3 negative

5 positive

Excited **Positive** Fearless
Hopeful Capable Worried
Anxious Scared
Self-reliant Overwhelmed
Upbeat Downhearted
Independent Confident
Doubtful Unsure Hesitant
Assured Dubious
Enthusiastic Pessimistic
Afraid **Optimistic** Nervous

What happened?

Please give your thoughts on the question below – you might like to: draw a picture or diagram, write a list, or create a mindmap.



Mentor results

- **Confidence levels at start were high**
- **Seven online questions - measurable results**
- **Small increase in confidence levels**
- **Open ended question – gave useful feedback**
- **Data straightforward to collect and analyse**

Conclusions



- **Working as partners with mentors**
- **Word cloud for measuring confidence**
- **Freeform input:**
 - ...needs a plan for analysis**
 - ...and no influence from others**

Thank you

Karen Croft

Skills for Learning Adviser

Libraries and Learning Innovation

Leeds Beckett University

k.croft@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

