

## ACADEMIC WRITING DIFFICULTIES FACED BY LIBYAN EFL UNDERGRADUATES AT ELMERGIB UNIVERSITY

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### **ABSTRACT**

*This study aimed to investigate the difficulties faced by EFL Libyan students in academic writing and the reasons that led to these academic writing difficulties. The study was conducted on English language students as their major specialization in the fourth year at faculty of Arts, Elmergib University. The data was collected via a questionnaire survey and face-to-face interviews. The results revealed that the students faced various writing difficulties: vocabulary (2.83); grammar (1.79); spelling (2.45); style rhetorical problems (1.58); punctuation (1.48); L1 Interference (2.07). Also the results through the interview showed that the most common reasons that led to these academic writing difficulties in English are: lack of motivation which is the main reason followed by lack of writing practice; lack of ideas and then lack of reading. From the results it can be concluded that Libyan students at Elmergib University are similar to the other EFL learners in general and EFL Arab learners in particular which they face the similar writing difficulties in English. This study may help teachers to resolve the problems faced by Libyan students studying English as a foreign language to improve their academic writing in English.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Academic Writing; Difficulties; Reasons; EFL Libyan Students*