Research on Academic English Literacy

We represent a team of scholars from Chalmers University of Technology and City University Hong Kong conducting research in the broader area of academic literacy/preparedness for academic study in English.

A key component of academic literacy in contexts of English medium instruction is knowing many of the English words used. On a daily basis, you need to use your knowledge of

- high frequency everyday words,
- discipline specific words (technical terms)
- general academic vocabulary (words that appear fairly frequently across many different academic disciplines).

As part of our work, we've designed **a test of general academic vocabulary**. The test measures *productive* knowledge of English academic vocabulary, i.e. your ability to produce (in speaking and writing) English academic words.

We'd be very grateful if you could take this test. Your performance on the test will help us to better understand the challenges involved in studying through the medium of English and acquiring academic English literacy.

Below are some things you should know in order to be able to decide whether you wish to participate.

It's voluntary. You don't have to take part. Your decision will not affect your grade in this class/program in any way.

It's quick. Experience from previous testing indicates that it takes ca 10-15 minutes to complete the test.

You will receive a free cinema ticket. As a token of our appreciation, all test takers are entitled to one (1) free cinema ticket.

You can change your mind. If you agree to be part of our study now, you can change your mind later, in which case your test will be destroyed.

You can find out your results. If you would like to know your score on the test, you can (indicate this in the space provided on the test).

Dissemination of findings. We will publish our research findings based on this testing. We may also share them with the teachers who are helping us, *but only in the aggregate*; that is, we may report results for *groups* but not for individuals.

Handling personal data. Once we have processed the test results and published the research, we will destroy all personal information. In the interim period (i.e. between testing and data destruction) all personal data are handled according to Chalmers University of Technology regulations, consistent with the *General Data Protection Regulation*.

Questions are welcome. If you have questions about the project or your participation in it, you're welcome to contact Hans Malmström (mahans@chalmers.se) or Diane Pecorari (diane.pecorari@cityu.edu.hk).

Thank you!