

## **Effects of Planning and Language on Constructing Patterns of Meaning**

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Most academics today need to write in English in order to reach a multilingual and multicultural audience. However, generating and expressing thoughts in what is for many a foreign language (FL) is cognitively demanding. Because of this, it is essential to know methods for enhancing the writing and thinking processes in the FL. A study was done in which students wrote academic essays in their first language (L1) and in an FL, using different planning methods. Analysis was conducted to determine whether the number and the quality of the ideas generated differed between the languages and between the planning methods. The findings show that both methods did indeed work far more efficiently in the L1 than in the FL.

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