

ESSE Turin

S.70. Empirical Approaches to Discipline, Culture and Identity in Academic Discourse

Academic discourse from experts to beginners:

Title: A specific spoken genre: the language of EFL conferences

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Long abstract

Conference presentations usually mirror different discourse communities and are the result of different components: the abstracts submitted as a response to a call for paper, the speakers' presentations, the visual aids supporting the presenters' speech as well as the discourse developed in the interaction with the conference participants. All of these components interact and differently engage both presenters and participants.

The purpose of this paper is to illustrate some of the preliminary results of a research study of a specific spoken genre: that of EFL conference presentations, a context where discourses vary according to expectations, cultures and identities of conference organisers, presenters and participants engaged in English language teaching.

The current study is based upon the speakers' responses to a specific questionnaire administered before the conference, and on the discourse analysis of the abstracts, of the transcripts of the presentations and of the texts of the Power Point used. The presentations analysed were delivered by twelve speakers - native and non-native - presenting at a national EFL conference in Italy. The emerging linguistic patterns of the abstracts and of the presentations as well as their relationship with the visuals and texts of the power point used, will be presented. (198 words)

Short abstract

Conference presentations mirror different discourse communities and are the result of diverse components: the call for paper, the abstracts, the presentations, the visual aids used and the interaction with conference participants. The purpose of this paper is to illustrate the preliminary results of a research study of a specific spoken genre: that of English Language Teaching conference presentations, a context where discourses vary according to expectations, cultures and identities of organisers, presenters and participants. The emerging linguistic patterns of the presentations as well as their relationship with the abstracts and with the visuals used will be presented. (97 words)

Time: 15 minutes

Power Point: needed