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Writing an Investigative Report

Introduction to Academic English for
Business and Economics Students

Weeks 12 - 15

beautiful formatting 1

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Writing an Investigative Report

• Learning Objective: By the end of this lesson, you will understand the structure of an investigative report and how to identify information in texts for the report.

1. Investigative Report: Structure	2. Identifying Information in Texts
Paragraph 1: Executive Summary Paragraph 2: Introduction	• Read through the source texts about a business issue.
Paragraph 3: Reasons for Use	• Find information about:
Paragraph 4: Outcome	1) The company (background / history)
Paragraph 5: Outcome	2)

What is an Investigative Report?

Aim:

• To examine the positive and negative outcomes of a business strategy.

Basic Elements of Investigative Report in IAE for Business and Economics:

- Identification of:
 - > reasons for use in business
 - > positive outcomes of use
 - > negative outcomes of use



(www.121tech.weebly.com, n.d.)

Investigative Report in IAE: Structure

Paragraph 2: Introduction

• Topic / Aim / Background or History / Importance / Sequence

Paragraph 3: What is / are the main reasons for business use?

• Support / data

Paragraph 4: What is / are the positive or negative outcomes of use?

• Support / data

Paragraph 5: What is / are the positive or negative outcomes of use?

• Support / data

Paragraph 1 (Cover Page): Executive Summary

• Aim / Summary of paragraphs 2, 3, & 4 / Suggestions to UAE companies

Finding Information: Investigative Report

- Read through the source texts about a business strategy.
- Find information about:
 - 1) The issue (background / history / why it is important)
 - 2) The reasons for business use
 - 3) The positive or negative outcomes of use
 - 4) The positive or negative outcomes of use
- Use a different colored highlighter to highlight the above information in your source texts (4 highlighters).
 Then, transfer the information to your outline.



Outline Writing: Advice

- Think of questions: who, what, where, when, why, and how.
- Identify key supporting data.
- Organize your information in a logical way (dates in order, etc).
- Write in notes, NOT full sentences.
- You should have enough notes to write a 500 word report.

