

AI in Writing Process – Script for the sixth episode

Welcome back to AI in the Writing Process! I'm Matilda, an AI voice.

And I'm Chris, another AI voice. Today, we're talking about the final stretch of writing—polishing your text with AI.

That's right. This is the phase where we fine-tune the language, improve flow, check the structure once more, and make sure our references are correct and formatted according to the instructions.

And I'd just like to remind you all to check your course's AI guidelines. Especially in communication and language studies, this kind of fine-tuning with AI might be prohibited, since the teachers are interested in YOUR language skills—not the AI's.

That's a good reminder, so check the rules before getting carried away with AI!

Now that that's covered, let's dive IN. We started by asking AI to check the style and fluency of our text. It pointed out a few word choices that were a bit too casual—like we were writing a blog post instead of an academic essay.

That was a good point, so we cleaned those up. This also reminded us to pay attention to academic style throughout the polishing phase.

Yeah, and we noticed some stylistic errors ourselves because of this.

Then we asked about the conventions of academic writing. The AI gave us a bunch of general tips, but nothing very specific to our text.

Some of the tips were useful, some of them... not so much. But we did get a few good suggestions for improving transitions and metatext. To be honest, though, the conventions were already pretty solid.

Next, we focused on grammar and sentence structure. We gave the AI a very specific prompt—basically a crash course in Finnish grammar—so it wouldn't start guessing.

And guess what? It did okay for the most part! For example, it could count sentence lengths and flag overly long ones. But punctuation? Let's just say it sometimes followed English rules in a Finnish sentence. Not ideal.

And compound words? It caught the obvious mistakes but also invented a few new ones. Classic AI move.

Again, we had to tell it, “Hey, if there are no mistakes, just say so.” Otherwise, it would invent errors just to be helpful.

It’s like a dog bringing you a stick you didn’t throw.

Hahaha! I can imagine the AI wagging its digital tail.

Then came the reference check. We asked the AI to compare in-text citations with the reference list to make sure the sources matched.

It couldn’t do the comparison directly, but it did generate two separate lists—one with the sources mentioned in the text and another with the sources in the reference list. These lists had some mistakes, but they were still helpful for our manual check.

While doing this, we found a few missing sources and even a couple of hallucinated ones. Yes, AI made up references—again.

Yes, and this is definitely something to be aware of when using AI in academic writing.

Then we asked it to check if our citations followed APA style. It caught some formatting issues—like missing italics—but also made some odd changes, like replacing Finnish abbreviations with English ones. In a Finnish text, that just didn’t make sense.

Yep, that was a bit odd.

But when we gave it a properly formatted reference list, it could clean it up nicely. Building one from scratch, though? Not AI’s strong suit.

Right. The last thing we tried—since AI use needs to be reported in academic work—was to test how well AI could help us write that report.

We gave it JYU’s standard template as well as a list of tools we used and what we did with them. At first, it just gave us a long list.

And that was not what we wanted. But after a few prompt tweaks—and a sample report—it finally gave us something usable. Still, it might’ve been faster to just write it ourselves.

If you do want to use AI for this, be super clear in your prompt. And be ready to edit the result—a lot.

So that wraps up our episode on finalizing your text with AI. From grammar to references to reporting, it can be a useful tool—but only if you use it wisely.

Thanks for joining us on AI in the Writing Process. Keep using AI wisely, and keep writing!

Hello from the creators! This podcast was created with the help of AI. Copilot was used to translate the original Finnish video subtitles into an English language podcast draft. This draft was then heavily edited to fit our needs and ideas. Then Elevenlabs was used to turn our finished script into the podcast you are now listening to.