#### NAGOYA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY WORKSHOPS 2015

学術論文の基本的な目的は、結論へと至る論理的ステップを提示することによって、 論文の主張する結論を受け入れるよう読者を説得することである。

## Academic Writing &

# 

May 20 ~ June 17, 2015

**Instructor: Dr. Paul Lai** 

# Nagoya University Library Workshops in 2015 Academic Writing and Logical Thinking Skills

After completing all the workshops, you will be given a Certificate of Completion!



June 17 3:00pm - 4:30pm Final presentations by students (friends and classmates are welcome to join!)

> June 10 3:00pm - 4:30pm How to make your writing convincing

3 June 3 3:00pm - 4:30pm How to use logic practically

May 27 3:00pm - 4:30pm How to make your writing clear

May 20 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Why is important to think logically for your writing



ReservationCohttp://www.nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp/Teguide/literacy/guidance.html#writing

Instructor: Paul Lai, Ph.D (Director, Mei-Writing Nagoya University) At: Discovery Square (Central Library 2F) Target: All students of Nagoya University Contact: Nagoya University Central Library

Tel: 052-789-3679 E-mail: sanko@nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp





Nagoya University Central Library Certificate of Completion

This is to certify that

has successfully completed a series of workshops on

Academic Writing and Logical Thinking Skills

Date June 24, 2015

Director, Nagoya University Library

Director, Mei-Writing Nagoya University (Workshop instructor)

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## Why it is important to think logically for academic writing

May 20, 2015

Instructor: Dr. Paul Lai

Writing is a process of communicating thoughts through the arrangement of texts

Words express thoughts

"Dog

Writing is a process of communicating thoughts through the arrangement of texts All academic writers are required to know

**The Writing Requirement** How words can be properly arranged to express the thoughts.

The Thinking Requirement How thoughts can be properly arranged so that they can be communicated to the readers in a clear & convincing manner.

#### The Thinking Requirement

The ultimate purpose of writing an academic paper, especially a research paper, is to communicate your research idea, and convince the readers (e.g. reviewers) to accept it.

#### The Thinking Requirement

The ultimate purpose of writing an academic paper, especially a research paper, is to communicate your research idea, and convince the readers (e.g. reviewers) to accept it.

What is "convincing"?

According to Oxford Dictionary of English, "**convincing**" means the following:

## capable of causing someone to believe that something is true

Thus, to make X convincing is to have the capability of causing someone to believe that X is true.

#### The condition for being convincing?

#### Consider the following examples

Peter lives in Nagoya.

because

because

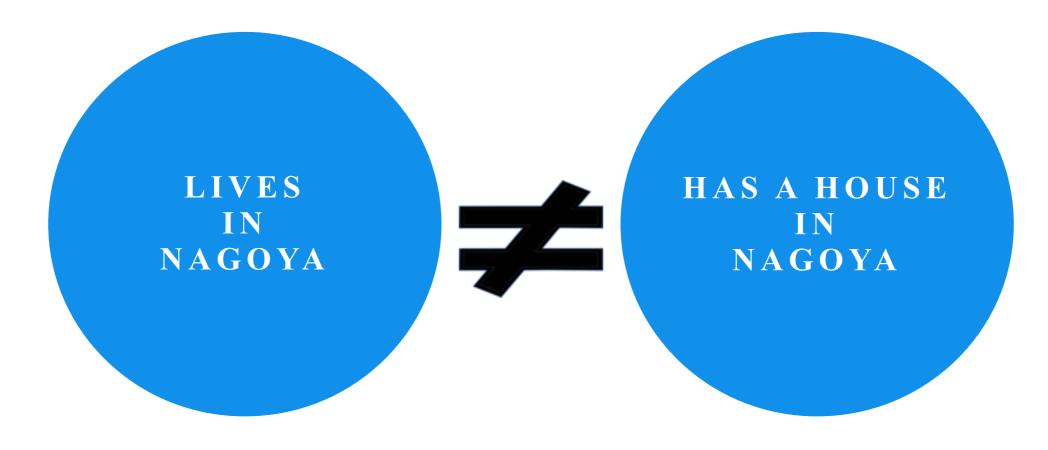
Peter has a house in Nagoya.

Peter does not live in Tokyo.

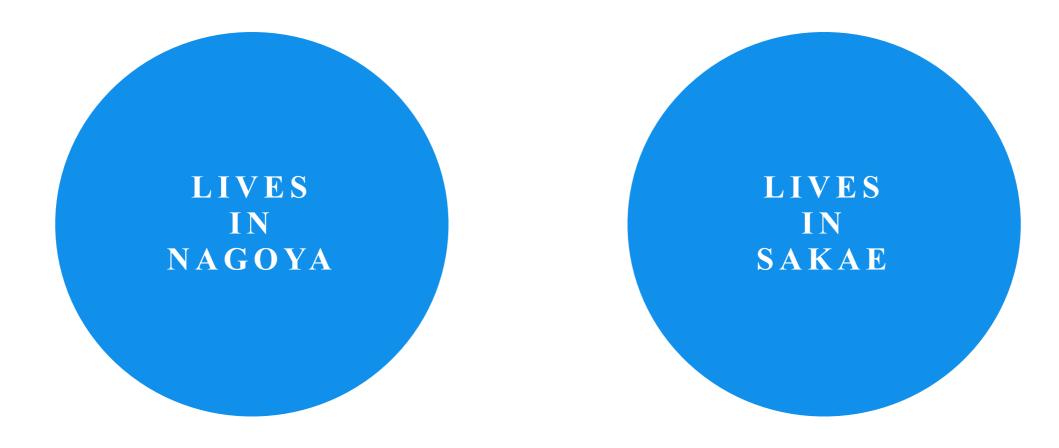
Peter lives in Nagoya.

Think about the truth conditions!!

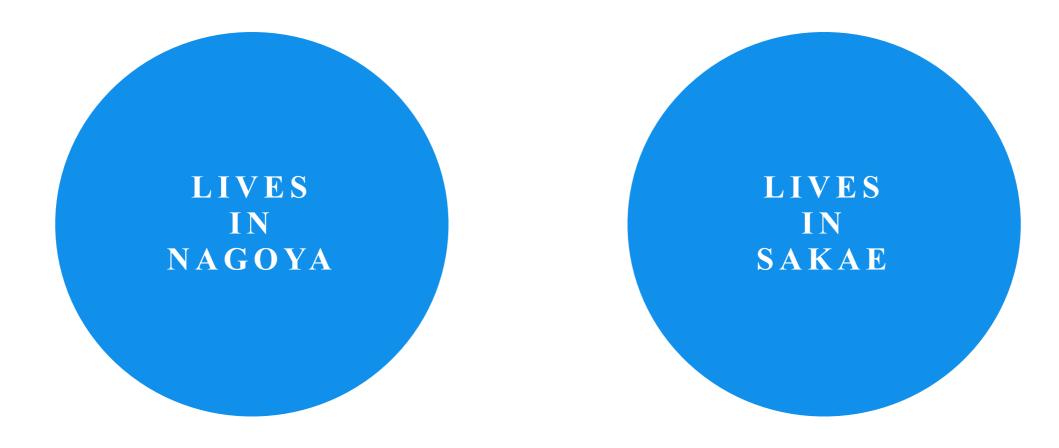
## Peter lives in Nagoya because he has a house there.



## Peter lives in Nagoya because he lives in Sakae.



## Peter lives in Nagoya because he lives in Sakae.



## Peter lives in Nagoya because he lives in Sakae.



Consider another example:

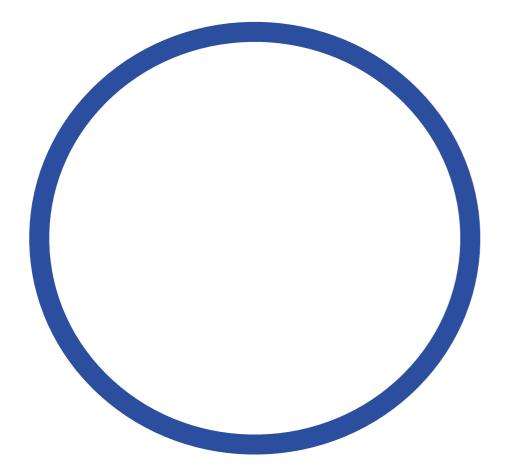
## Peter cannot come to school today because his car broke down.

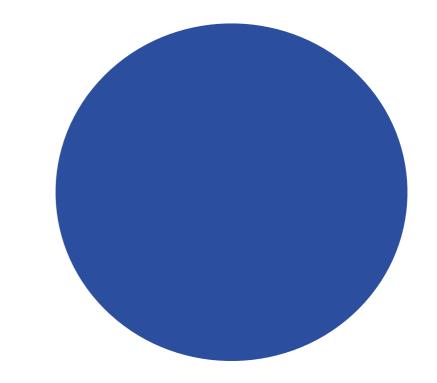
## Peter cannot come to school today NO DIRECT RELATION !!! his car broke down

#### Peter cannot come to school today

#### HOW TO CONNECT THE TWO?

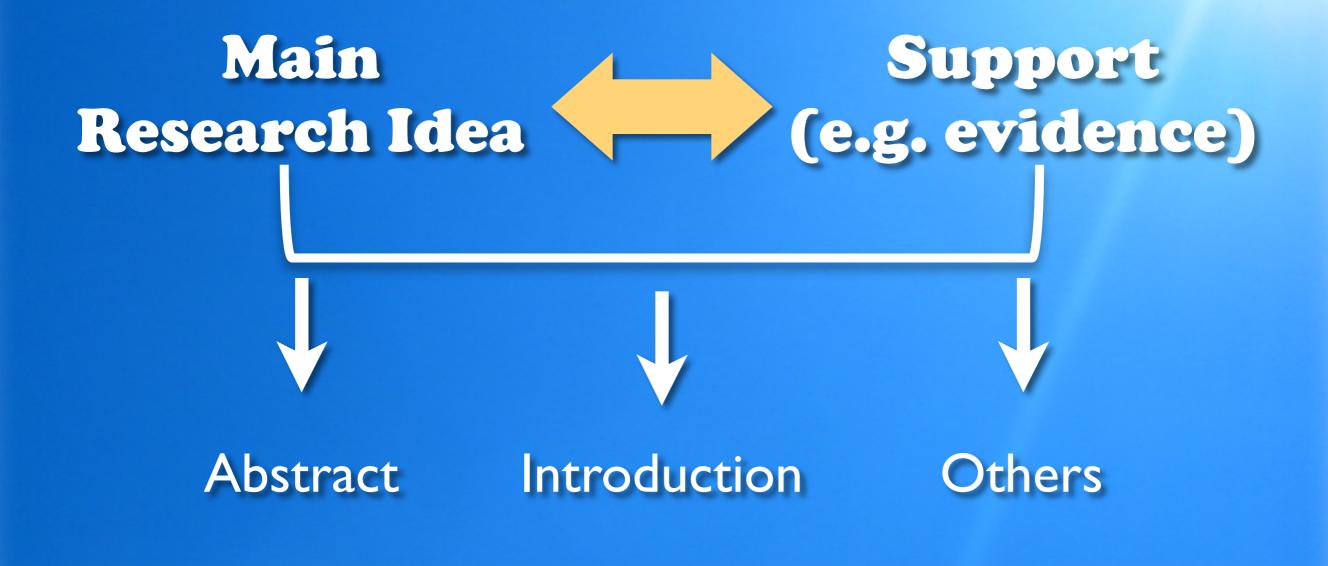
#### his car broke down

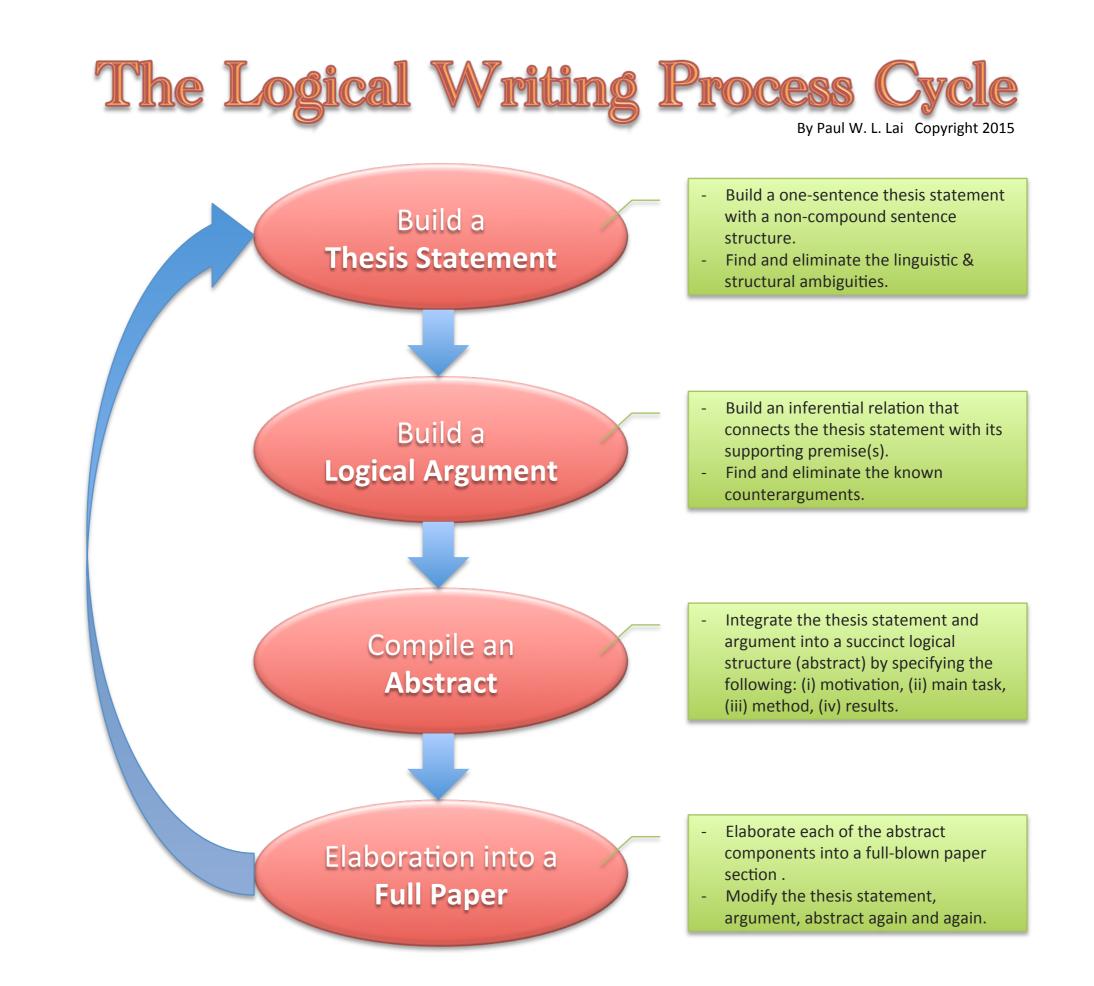




Peter's car broke down Peter needs to come to school by car No other car is available Peter's car cannot be repaired Impossible to get a new car Peter cannot come to school today

Writing is a process of communicating thoughts through the arrangement of texts Research writing is a process of communicating the original ideas through the particular arrangement of texts, namely logical argumentation!!





# Logical Thinking Skills

#### What is a **Clear & Convincing** paper?

A paper with a (clear) **Thesis Statement** and a (convincing) **Logical Argument** for the statement.



## Exercises

Try to make the following reason convincing:

Peter cannot submit the assignment today because his computer broke down.

Try to provide ONE Convincing reason for the following statement:

### Peter is a professional teacher.

## Homework

Think about the following topic, and write down a summary of your view. (about 100 Words)

## **Education in Japan**