Literatu Scribo

Scribo 2.0 Tertiary

Frequently Asked Questions

November 2020

Introduction

Imagine an AI based technology that could analyse each student's text, deliver instant personalised feedback to students about their text and help educators mentor the writing abilities of their students.

What if that technology managed all of the data needed for leaders of Universities to know where more resources and targeted support is needed? What if this technology could reduce the risk of students leaving courses or ceasing study due to insufficient academic writing skills?

Would educators and universities say "WOW, I'll take a look at that", "Impossible!" or "I'm too busy"? There is only one right answer!

Welcome to Scribo for Tertiary!

W:: http:/about.literatu.com/ tertiary

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Section 1: Get Scribo going in your University

How do I register my University with Literatu and request Scribo access?

To use Scribo in a University setting, Universities must register with Literatu. Scribo is NOT a free service, however it can be trialled FREE for 21 days for up to 50 students in a faculty and 150 writing chekcs. Follow the link below and register. We will make contact and get your trial community underway. We encourage the use of a single University Community for multiple educator accounts.

If you would like to register for a Scribo Personal Use trial, follow this link : https://www.literatu.com/#/signup

University trials should register with this link :

https://about.literatu.com/divi_overlay/scribo-sign-up/

How do I register Educators and Students?

Educators and students register using community / class access keys or via our Literatu university onboarding process. Scribo integrates directly with LTI, O365, Google, Google Classroom and LDAP protocols to establish educator, student access, Courses and accounts. If you have any of these, please let us know.
For the purposes of a trial, we issue an Educator registration code. Educators create courses and give students course key codes to self register.

Can we register Students via Single Sign On (SSO)?

Students can SSO (Single Sign On) in Scribo using their O365 or Google account. With a Student Access code, registration into a course is simple and fast.

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Can Students register for a trial directly?

Yes. Students can register and login to Scribo for a live trial. They are taken on a tour of Scribo capabilities and encouraged to try Sribo with a real question they are working on or have already answered.

What level of Student does Scribo apply to?

Scribo is used in all levels of Tertiary education to check and promote writing skills and techniques. Scribo does this through:

- Active writing connections to students with immediate feedback and analysis powered by the Scribo AI and ML engine.
- Live connections between students and tutors to help reduce the time taken for feedback and guidance when humans are involved.
- Integrated Data analytics combined with ML and AI to find and highlight where targeted teaching would have an immediate impact on student writing.

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Section 2 : Infrastructure / Delivery

Is Scribo a cloud hosted system?

Yes, Scribo is delivered to universities and colleges via the cloud. Anyone can log in from anywhere there is a web connection, and your login email or user account can be validated.

Does Scribo support SSO with Google and O365?

Yes, we do. Scribo integrates with both. Your primary Google or O365 account can create a Scribo account and you have single click access with no new passwords. Register with Google and/or Microsoft accounts from the front screen.

Does Scribo use AI and ML technology?

Yes, Scribo uses Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence extensively to make every student and educators' life easier. All feedback generated by Scribo for students is created using our NLP, ML and AI technology. The data created is kept confidential and unique to the context of your University / Scribo Community. Data that is shared and used to aggregate and inference learnings across all writing is anonymised. In University environments, educators can work with us to train Scribo ML and AI to respond in a tailored University context.

Does Scribo integrate with Google Classroom?

Yes, Scribo is fully integrated with Google Classroom and Google Docs. Educators can synchronize courses and activities in one click. Scribo is a Google Docs Add-on available from the Google Marketplace. Educators and students use Scribo from the Google Add-on with no need to leave Google Docs.

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Does Scribo work inside Google Docs and Word O365?

Yes. Scribo is an Add-on from the Google Marketplace store. Scribo for G-Suite works in Docs, fully supporting writing without forcing students away from the authoring platform of choice. Scribo for O365 Word integration offers the same functionality and is available from the Office Store. This is an Add On that is quickly attached to Word O365.

Does Scribo integrate with Teams?

Yes, Scribo integrates with Teams as well as sync's with Teams. There is good integration offered via Word Add ins that manage the integration and seamless one SSO , one account feature.

Can Scribo work with Student and course keys for quick registration?

Yes, Student and course keys are the quickest way to get students onboarded. If you use O365 and/or Google register using SOO and enter a key. Presto, you have a course and you are ready to go!

Does Scribo require plugins for the Browser?

No, Scribo is all HTML 5 delivered. There are no plugins required. Scribo works with all major browsers.

Does Scribo integrate with SIS and LMS Systems?

Scribo integrates with SIS and timetable systems directly. Integration with LMS is via LTI launch.

Can Scribo data support BI platforms?

Scribo data can be exported in BI formats for further analysis. We have a direct link from our Ledger platform to Power BI and Tableau or other BI tools and platforms.

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Section 3 : Scribo Platform Features

Can Educators create and monitor writing activity tasks?

Educators can create a writing task and share it with others in the University community..

Does Scribo analyse Student long format texts and produce feedback?

The main purpose of Scribo is using ML and AI to build detailed writing feedback and analysis for each long or short format student text submitted. When checks are run, Scribo creates over 130 data points on each check. Feedback is given to students on screen as well as report. All Scribo and educator feedback is captured, analysed and visible back to students. Detailed data is captured for benchmarking and TEQSA supporting evidence of student support .

Does Scribo have a Student mode?

Scribo is available for students either on the Web, in Google Docs as an Add-on or WORD O365 as an Add On. Scribo Web analyses student text pasted in or loaded from Google Docs or Microsoft Word.

Scribo SOLO writing checks contain up to 12 levels of analysis of student text including personalised feedback generated by Scribo from the analysis. Each time the student makes a change, the writing check can be re-run. Scribo can be run by students in SOLO mode meaning students do not have to be connected to a course or teacher course.

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Does Scribo support Students writing with scaffolds and writing support materials?

Yes. Scribo lets educators create writing scaffolds and support materials that students can access when writing. These options can be switched off.

Can Students enter any question they are answering and get writing feedback based on the question?

Scribo allows students to enter or paste in the question or essay prompt they are responding to. Scribo automatically discovers the context, isolating the keywords, task and limiting words for the essay. Scribo uses these words in the essay response analysis. Students access topic based analysis built into the feedback.

Does Scribo analyse writing styles and voice?

Yes, Scribo analyses over 16 different writing styles, including three voices, to check if students have followed the question requirements and answered the question. Scribo tracks the efficiency of over 16 different writing styles like Compare, Contrast, Expand Ideas, Give Examples, Cause and Effect, Expand Ideas, Quote and more. Students can select the styles they want to check.

Can Scribo create an analysis for all Students in the course?

Scribo is famous for reporting on writing across the course. We call this the panel report. Educators need to know where their time is best spent across the learning levels of the course from the data collected. Scribo reads all students' texts and creates a multi-layer analysis of cohort writing. With these insights, educators see across live examples of student work. Teachable moments are ready, examples from live text are extracted ready for lesson planning, and deep analysis and insights are created in minutes across all students.

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Can Scribo auto grade essays?

We get asked this all the time and the answer is still no, not automatically. There are so many variations in human marking and writing topics, there is no way a computer can match the cognitive abilities of educators closely enough to be good enough. If you pre-work and train models for specific questions, it is possible, but useless in a dynamic classroom where everything is moving.

Scribo does accurately rank the students based on our deep text analysis. Across many thousands of essays, we have built a formula that ranks students very effectively based on multiple elements of analysis. Using our ranking, educators can grade much faster. Educators train Scribo's accuracy by adjusting scales of results across 6 levels of analysis. If educators confirm or alter our assessment across 6 rankings, Scribo is trained in their way of grading. With base training data in place, we can start auto grading with you.

What types of grading does Scribo support?

Scribo supports them all with very flexible Rubric marking – from your Rubric definitions, not ours. Letter grading and number based X/Y grading as a number or percentage, is supported. The most powerful support is from great flexibility with Rubrics. Students can self grade against a Rubric and hand in work for final assessment. Educators have final grading authority.

Does Scribo support feedback on Student work?

The 11 main automatic feedback capabilities of Scribo include:

1. Scribo generates extensive feedback on writing automatically, paragraph by paragraph. Students rate the feedback as sensational.
2. Educators can 'drop' text based feedback onto student work as they work.
3. Feedback can be spoken – full voice to text capability.
4. Feedback libraries can be used to shortcut common feedback points.
5. Feedback is delivered live to students as soon as the feedback is given.
6. Students get feedback summaries daily or weekly via alerts and email.
7. Educators get weekly feedback summaries.

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8. Scribo feedback is built into Google Comments workflow if Google Docs are linked.
9. Google feedback is integrated back to Scribo allowing students to see all feedback at all times.
10. Feedback statistics are available to Educators instantly with one click.
11. Educators can give feedback in Scribo, Google or O365 and the Live feedback alert system will communicate with Students.

Can Scribo support Summative and Cold Writing tasks?

Cold Writing tasks are used extensively in Scribo. Students are given a topic, possibly a supporting scaffold, and a writing space to address the question. This writing space has no spell checking or grammar checking support. Educators finally see the levels of writing in a cohort as they really are. All data flows into analysis and feedback capabilities. This mode is used for summative and formative testing of students to check writing levels. Cold writing could be used in admission testing or to sample student texts during a semester. This builds a writing model for each student. Subsequent dramatic variations to this model of writing style are a red flag.

Can Scribo be used for all subjects at all levels?

Yes. Scribo can be used across all faculty subjects at all levels of learning. All that changes is the level of the feedback, the depth of the question answer and obviously the student response.

Can Scribo give feedback in other languages?

Educators can dictate feedback in other languages and students can convert English feedback into their mother tongue. Scribo can work with any language supported in Google Chrome.

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Section 4 : Scribo Workflow

Can Educators monitor Student writing tasks live?

Yes. Educators can monitor student work as they work in Scribo Web, O365 or in Google Docs. Educators work with a linked copy holding comments / feedback. This is delivered straight to students via Web and/or Google Docs.

Can Educators run a Cohort writing analysis any time?

Yes. At any time, educators can run a cohort panel report that summarises the writing results and trends for the whole course. The panel report is also available at student level.

Does Scribo inform Students about feedback?

Yes. If feedback is made in Scribo to a Google linked document, the student is informed using the Google email workflow that exists now via email. Scribo feedback will also be posted into the Comments section of Google Docs.

Can Students submit work from Scribo?

Yes, students can hand in their work for marking in Scribo. Tutors are involved in the grading process.

Does Scribo produce a Student Grading and Feedback report?

Scribo allows educators to produce a writing report for each student that summarises their grade, rubric score and feedback given (embedded in the document). This report is on screen for students. It is also emailed and available in PDF format.

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Can Students access Educator and Scribo feedback?

Yes. Scribo alerts students to feedback on their work via an online summary and emails that summarize all system-delivered and educator-created feedback.

Can Educators get course based summary alerts ?

Yes. Scribo will send educator summaries that suggest which students need which level of assistance in their writing.

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Section 5 : Scribo Analytics

Does Scribo build data efficacy models showing usage?

Yes. Scribo builds efficacy models that show which and where users are accessing Scribo. Scribo keeps count of many major metrics and can break them down in many different ways.

Do Educators have access to Student writing growth information?

Yes. Scribo builds data from the lowest level of identification. From Student → Educator → Course → Year → Subject → Faculty → University → Dept / District.

Key insights show educators the students and areas that are improving, and those which are not.

Can Students see their own writing metrics?

Yes. Scribo shows students where they are improving, and where they are not, across a range of writing metrics.

Is Scribo the most comprehensive writing support platform available?

No surprise there. Yes. Scribo has been designed to achieve three main goals and in so doing, be relevant to three clear sets of stakeholders.

1. Engage students with full-time writing support that does more than writing correction. Analysis and feedback that makes a difference via real connections to student writing growth.
2. Educators have live student connections to writing, learning analytics and supporting workflows that reduce the work they do now and give back time to target their teaching.

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3. School leaders have a strong base for improvement through live data analytics collated across multiple levels. This is the backbone of writing improvement and data for benchmarking and regulator analysis.

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Section 6 : Terminology / Opinions

What does Writing Grade Level mean?

There is a range of well accepted writing index ratings and grade level indicators that have been around for quite a while. Flesch-Kincaid has a reading ease and grade level index as do Coleman Liau, SMOG, ARI and more. They all base their well researched algorithm around the density and diversity of words used in a sentence in one way or another. Be it syllables, or noun and adjective density, they all implement a formula that equates a level of writing to a grade level a student would need to be at to effectively read the text. This is the Grade Level.

Whilst we use the Coleman Liau index as an element in our calculations, the Writing Level indicates the lowest and highest grade level of writing in your course. In most courses there are 5 years of difference between the bottom and the top.

When it comes to Readability, the readability index calculates a number from 0 – the equivalent of a life insurance policy – to 100, the equivalent of a Dr Seuss book. The scale works in reverse to what you would expect. The best writing range is around 45–60 which means the text is readable by most people. Academic works sit lower, younger writers sit higher. When you see a student who is writing at an academic level for the first time ever – hmm, it might not be their work.

Will AI ever replace Educators?

Even in 2020, some educators think Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) are works of science fiction, designed to dilute the impact and eventual usefulness of educators. In reality, nothing could be further from the truth. There is, however, more factual science around the capabilities of technology to support educators than valid sceptic rumours. There is one thing universally accepted though – there is no way AI will replace educators until educators stop thinking, or computers grow a cognitive processing capability – and that's a long way away.

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Since the late 1950's, scientists have predicted that computers like Hal from 2001: A Space Odyssey, will be working for us in another 10 years. Well, it's 2020 now and all my friends and I are still waiting. The irony in education is that to improve the technology and the levels of accuracy offered by AI and ML in education, educators actually hold the keys to the AI / ML future – not Google, Microsoft or Amazon. Without valid and accurate data built by educators, AI in education will never deliver the benefits it could.

Scribo implements ML and AI to measure and grow each student's writing ability, the most important meta-cognitive skill of every human.

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