

## **How I manage my writings? *Grammarly* was my best friend**

Understanding the teachers during the lectures was not the only hard thing. They were understanding and helpful all along, as well as the other students. But still, we had to write those studies and essays and also, we had a writing exam at the end of the semester. I think that the last one was the hardest for me. I'll write about it why.

When we wrote the essays during the study period, we could use tools like Grammarly. More than one lecturer suggested us to use it because it corrects all the basic mistakes so we don't lose grades for trivial reasons. Yes, we were international students, but the rules are the same for us. And they were right about Grammarly. Writing in English was weird and hard at first. We talked about it a lot and we all agreed that we had to think in English while writing. This way we can improve faster and make fewer mistakes. Not to mention the sentence structures... Hungarian grammar is much more complicated than the English one so translating complex sentences is trouble.

We had that one lecturer in our UI class, who even offered us the following: if we find something hard to explain in English we could write it in our first language. Then he would use google translate to understand it. Of course, none of us did it. But we felt happy for him being so understanding.

The BIG thing was the writing exam at the end of the study period. It was a really strict event. Stricker than here in METU. We had to put down everything before entering the classroom. Bags, phones, hats, scarves... everything except a pen. We got a bottle of water for free, but we couldn't take ours into the room. After entering, we had to show our student IDs and to sign a paper. There were other rules as well: no toilet during the first 45 minutes, later only with a teacher. We couldn't hand in the paper in the first hour. We had to sit there even if we were finished. I was told that I couldn't use a dictionary, but it turned out I was misinformed about this. I could have submitted a paper for using one... but since I was told otherwise I didn't. Luckily I got enough points to pass the exam without submit a complain.