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Writing for the sciences

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My name is Tomas Megally. I am a student at the Colin Powel school at CCNY majoring in Psychology. As a psychology major student, I write a lot of papers regardless of how I feel about writing. However, writing is not something that I despise nor love/like to do, but of all the ways a human can express himself/herself, writing is one of the best ways, in my opinion. Science writing is not hard in the sense of what is being expressed because they are ways in which science can be simplified in language. For example, if an audience is having trouble understanding the science paper written about general relativity, we can use narratives to illustrate the paper. However, the rules in which a paper is set to be written is what makes science writing hard, at least that is how I find it. As mentioned earlier, science “decoding” is not hard when using methods such as narratives. When Albert Einstein came up with the theory of relativity no one understood it except a few scientists but with time using illustrations such as that of twins story, usually used by scientists, it became easier to comprehend. I myself had a similar example with my family. My family and I migrated to the USA about seven years ago and my parents didn’t have the chance to learn as much English. I have always had to translate to them but the problem is that sometimes I struggled with understanding the text myself. I used the internet to get an idea of what some of the terms meant. I think this method always works, so I will use it moving forward. Since I have a different background, culture and language I sometimes find myself in difficulty trying to to convey the message to myself and others who

relate to me from my background. For example, in English when my phone is not working because it needs to be charged we say "it's dead" In my language the word dead is only used to describe living things. So, if I were to translate the phrase "My phone is dead" literally, my people will not understand me, rather, I will have to translate the meaning not the word. Since I have been here for seven years, I am expected to know "good" English. However, I still deal with flaws while speaking such as using the word "like" too many times In my sentences. The reason though is because the word like is used a lot around me to the point that it kind of became the standard English. That connects to the reason I use it a lot. I believe that standard English is easier to understand. I have mentioned that I have been in the USA for seven years and my flaw is in using the word like too many times, but the other flaw is not knowing too many vocabulary words such as sustainability. However, I know that it comes from the word Sustain which I believe means to keep. I take every opportunity to learn the English language everyday, and I believe that taking the course "writing for the sciences" will be a huge step in doing so.