Using target vocabulary from source texts in writing:
What happens when push comes to shove?

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In this talk I will report on an investigation into the use of vocabulary from input texts in writing in an English for Academic Purposes (EAP) context. The study looks at the effects of requiring second language writers to use targeted words in written output, drawn on both written and spoken data from second language participants in two studies and spoken data from a teacher study. We will begin by investigating productive word use in the literature and move on to the positive and negative effects of instructing learners to use specific words in their essay writing. Some pedagogical implications and possibilities for further research will conclude the seminar.

Averil Coxhead is a lecturer in English for Academic Purposes and Applied Linguistics at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. She teaches on the Diploma of Second Language Teaching by distance and on the EAP programme both internally and extramurally. Averil is the author of Essentials in teaching academic vocabulary (Boston: Cengage, 2006), the Academic Word List (AWL) (see http://language.massey.ac.nz/staff/awl/index.shtml), and is currently co-authoring a book on the common collocations and recurrent phrases of the AWL (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press).

6.00 pm
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Lecture Theatre Room 351,
Faculty of Education Building
Manning Road
The University of Sydney

Coordinators: Diana Slade (UTS) and Brian Paltridge (University of Sydney). To register for email notification of the Language in Education seminars please email Brian Paltridge b.paltridge@usyd.edu.au or Renata Atkin Renata.Atkin@uts.edu.au