

Oh my God, there he comes again. He finally decided to write a second term paper for his seminar on language acquisition...that means a lot of stress and a huge workload for me, as this guy writes fast. Bad thing about this: he has to correct a lot of stuff, both contentwise and in formal terms, so that I, his humble laptop, have to do a lot of processing. That sucks, I would rather have a nice movie being shown on my screen or just relax in standby-mode...anyway, here we go, he is starting to write his introduction. I regard this as rather dumb, I mean, you should know what you are writing about before actually starting to write it, shouldn't you? Okay, he says what the general problem and/or research question is, that should be alright, I guess. I am looking forward to see his thesis, I hope it is not as boring as the last one...computers have feelings, too, you know, they are disappointed when they are abused for writing some irrelevant stuff on stupid things that no one is going to read anyway, except a poor assistant professor who will give his own mark, make the professor sign, and throw the paper away. Fortunately, my boss doesn't know about this, so he is still eager to contribute to the progress of mankind. What a jerk! Okay, there we go, introduction is done, I bet he will have to work on it and correct it afterwards for quite a few times. Damn it, his writing slows down, he is in the first part of his paper. Background section is always difficult, a lot to read without being able to write a lot about it. That's why he touches the keyboard a lot harder than before, ouch, it hurts! And all these works he cites only to have an impressive bibliography, how pathetic! Anyway, background section is done, now comes the interesting part: he will try to develop his own train of thought. That is usually the most interesting part for me as his laptop, as he is quite excited when he assumes that he wrote something convincing...he writes fast, and, annoyingly, jumps back to his introduction quite often to adjust his thesis and his problem statement. Footnotes occur less often, which is good, they are a lot of work for me...but he seems to like them somehow. Wow, that was a quick main part, he is writing his conclusion already. The day starts to get worse: that means he is going to go through this first draft of his paper for a lot of times and change a many minor things...I personally hate this, couldn't he just let go and print his first version? As if all these minor adjustments changed that much. And he is going through some phases of uncertainty, I realise this as he sometimes makes long pauses and dwells on the structure of single sentences, which is boring and annoying. But after that, he regains his confidence and presses my print-button...that is a last step for me, and the processing does not take long...I guess he finally made up his mind and thought that his paper will somehow work out, even in the eyes of his examiner. I must say that I like my boss at the end of the day, as he is a faithful and nice guy to me for quite a lot of time now. Except that one time he spilled a drink over me, but I survived it. I like his style of writing, and I prefer his English writing over his German one, as he does not use that many strange, substantivised words. The only boring thing is his obsession with corrections when the deadline approaches...but that is a flaw that I can easily forgive. I guess that in the end, we are a good team!