The government drew an analogy between a family and a society, pointing out that both need a leader if they are to function smoothly. [Barron’s]

The idea of evolution in nature is sometimes misconstrued and applied by analogy to other areas in which there is scant evidence for its existence; a notable example of this is Social Darwinism, in which it is argued that society is like nature and thus people, like animals, are competing for survival, with those who are genetically superior at surviving and reproducing. [Barron’s]

The economist drew an analogy between a family spending beyond its means and a government running a deficit. [Barron’s]

To say having an allergy feels like being bitten by an alligator would be to make or draw an analogy between an allergy and an alligator bite. [Word Smart]

The explanation for this is based on an analogy with ripples in water. [Kaplan]

As an analogy, think of a short sightseeing tour of a city, such as Copenhagen or New York.

We have yet to complete the assessment of Canada’s biodiversity. [ETS]

For learning C++, it makes sense to use the most complete and helpful information.

Retrofitted with stabilizing devices, some of which compromise its aesthetics, the bridge has been reopened, no longer prone to excessive swaying but not quite the breathtaking structure it originally was. [ETS]

When C++ was designed, care was taken not to compromise the gains in this area.

This can usually be done without compromising run-time and space efficiency compared to lower-level techniques.

Also, the work on a new C++ standard obviously had to take great care not to compromise older code through incompatible changes.

While the abstract impressionist painter Lee Kranser may not be as well-known to the general public as her husband Jackson Pollock, her work is held in esteem by connoisseurs; indeed, she is the only female artists to have been featured in a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art. [Kaplan]

Connoisseurs of C semantics find C++ inferior to ++C.

Academics, when locking rhetorical horns, can toss off the most pointed barbs by deploying nothing more than an understated phrase, so it should come as no surprise that they are prone to seeing slights where none exist. [Magoosh, GRE Prep]

Billions (thousands of millions) of lines of C++ are currently deployed.

The draconian nature of the monarch’s reign, which was characterized by frequent shows of force and what were thought by many to be egregious violations of individual rights, was not negated by the ruler’s intermittent acts of generosity. [Kaplan]

These are Draconian principles, but essential in some (but obviously not all) contexts.

Companies that give employees the flexibility to eschew their more quotidian responsibilities in favor of more exciting projects see dramatically increased productivity compared to businesses that are more authoritarian in their minute-to-minute structuring of daily routine. [Kaplan]

C++’s support for design and programming has improved dramatically over the years, and lots of new helpful techniques have been developed for its use.

The setting in which the concert took place exacted a toll: the group’s performance was elegant and polished, but the sound, which seeped across the cold, unresonant high school auditorium, was oddly tepid, given the energy the players seemed to be putting into it. [ETS]

In particular, the zero-overhead principle repeatedly led C++ to simpler, more elegant, and more powerful facilities than were first envisioned.

By “better” I mean easier to read, easier to write, more elegant, less error-prone, more maintainable, faster-running, consuming fewer resources, etc.

The idea is that to be useful, a language feature must not only be elegant, it must also be affordable in the context of a real-world program.

Instead, Coleman furnishes more than ample descriptive criticism and background information, avoiding the cryptic allusiveness that is favored by some academic critics but that discourages the undergraduate audience he likely envisioned. [ETS]

In particular, the zero-overhead principle repeatedly led C++ to simpler, more elegant, and more powerful facilities than were first envisioned.

James W. Coleman’s book on John Edgar Wideman’s literary career addresses the needs of a general, if well-read, public rather than the esoteric vanities of scholarly specialists, whom he neither ignores nor flatters. [ETS]

That last construct (a pointer to member) is fairly rare and esoteric.

The contention that Hopkin’s extensive anthropological fieldwork led to a unified theory is specious; close scrutiny reveals a mere hodgepodge of observations that, at times, even prove inimical to one another. [Magoosh. GRE Prep.]

Long after his heyday as Germany’s pre-eminent visionary philosopher, Nietzche began to populate his writing with a hodgepodge of aphorisms. [Magoosh]

Except for the STL, the standard library was a bit of a hodgepodge of components, rather than a unified design.

The remarkable thing about the mayoral race, in retrospect, is that so many people wanted the job of managing a municipality so obviously about to crumble. [ETS]

In retrospect, I consider the introduction of constructors and destructors most significant.

The serious study of popular culture by intellectuals is regularly credited with having rendered obsolete a once dominant view that popular culture is inherently inferior to high art. [ETS]

Even if the standard component is arguably slightly inferior to a home-built component for a particular problem, the standard library is more likely to be more widely applicable, more widely available and more widely known.

Connoisseurs of C semantics find C++ inferior to ++C.

Ragworts was accidentally introduced to New Zealand in the late nineteenth century and, like so many invading foreign species, quickly became a pest. [ETS]

C-style casts should have been deprecated when the named casts were introduced.

This introduces library components and their underlying design concepts and implementation techniques.

The neglect of the old theater was manifest in the extreme dilapidation of the building, which was no longer safe to enter. [Kaplan]

Use **const, constexpr, enum** or **enum class** to define manifest constants, **inline** to avoid function-calling overhead, **template**s to specify families of functions and types, and **namespace**s to avoid name clashes.

It is refreshing to read a book about our planet by an author who does not allow facts to be overshadowed by politics: well aware of the political disputes about the effects of human activities on climate and biodiversity, this author does not permit them to obscure his comprehensive description of what we know about our biosphere. [ETS]

In practical programming, there is little advantage in knowing the most obscure language features or using the largest number of features.

The serious study of popular culture by intellectuals is regularly credited with having rendered obsolete a once dominant view that popular culture is inherently inferior to high art. [ETS]

Some analysts worry about consumers’ perception that the electronics industry is always on the verge of major breakthroughs; that perception could hurt the industry by making consumers reluctant to buy products they believe will soon be obsolete.

Most are deemed poor style or even obsolete in modern C.

The theologian discussed the question of why a beneficent and omnipotent God allows bad things to happen to good people. [Barron’s]

After winning a dozen games in a row, the football team began to feel omnipotent. [Word Smart]

Because he had never lost a tennis match, Luther believed himself to be omnipotent on the court. [Word Smart]

C++ is not the work of a faceless, anonymous committee or of a supposedly omnipotent “dictator of life”; it is the work of many dedicated, experienced, hard-working individuals.

Although relying on much of the recent scholarship on the bison, Lott’s book is a distinctly original and even idiosyncratic contribution to the field. [ETS]

Although it does contain some pioneering ideas, one would hardly characterize the work as original. [ETS]

Torpey’s study has turned a seemingly insipid topic, the passport, into a fascinating one by making an original contribution to the sociology of the state.

One of the original aims for C was to replace assembly coding for the most demanding systems programming tasks.

In *The Simple Soybean,* the author is much less restrained in his enthusiasm for the bean’s medical efficacy than he is in his technical writings, but he is still cautious against treating soy as a panacea. [ETS]

Do not thoughtlessly replace pointers with **shared\_ptr**s in an attempt to prevent memory leaks; **shared\_ptr**s are not a panacea nor are they without costs.

Clearly, not every work is equally empowered in the new paradigm. [Kaplan]

For example, what I refer to as a “programming style”, others call a “programming technique” or a “paradigm”. I prefer to use “programming technique” for something more limited and language-specific. I feel uncomfortable with the word “paradigm” as pretentious and (from Kuhn’s original definition) having implied claims of exclusivity.

But UHERCs tend to collide with photons of the cosmic microwave background – pervasive radiation that is a relic of the early universe. [ETS]

The latest biography on J.R. Oppenheimer in attempting to dispel the pervasive notion that he was an eccentric, only perpetuates such a view: seemingly every one of Oppenheimer’s quirks is related with gleeful fondness. [Magoosh. GRE Prep.]

As technology grows increasingly sophisticated and pervasive, parents should consider the potentially negative consequences of its constant use: a child who can retrieve the answer to any question merely by asking her digital assistant may lose her ability to think for herself. [Kaplan]

These are features that will be pervasive in good code.

C++ is a systems programming language, and its most pervasive uses are deep in the infrastructure where we, as users, never look.

To assume the former audience was familiar with every work Wideman ever penned would have been pretentious. [ETS]

I feel uncomfortable with the word “paradigm” as pretentious and (from Kuhn’s original definition) having implied claims of exclusivity.

Jansen’s writing strikes many as paradoxical: for one who is capable of enduring even the most recondite topics with a breezy tone, his prose becomes curiously stilted in the informal correspondences he had with his contemporaries. [Magoosh. GRE Prep.]

How does one write good English prose?

George W. Bush’s win in the 2000 election was in many ways a pyrrhic victory: the circumstances of his win alienated close to half of America. [Magoosh]

Over the basic type system of a language, only Pyrrhic victories are possible.

True random number generation often depends on measurement of an unpredictable physical phenomenon, such as weather patterns or atmospheric radiation, and using that measurement as an input to generate a result. [Kaplan]

These random numbers are sequences of values produced according to mathematical formulas, rather than unguessable (“truly random”) numbers that could be obtained from a physical process, such as radioactive decay or solar radiation. If the implementation has such a truly random device, it will be represented as a **random\_device**.

Among the lizard’s prey were some beetles that they initially rejected because the insects were spraying their hot, irritant defense chemicals at the time. [ETS]

For example, constructs that would make it necessary to store “housekeeping information” in every object were rejected, so if a user declares a structure consisting of two 16-bit quantities, that structure will fit into a 32-bit register.

What tradition has long known, science must labor through its usual rigorous protocols to arrive at the very same assessment. [Magoosh. GRE Prep.]

These processes probably led to a better (and more rigorous) specification, but they also limited innovation.

Anecdotal evidence of humans’ attempts to transplant limbs from animals in order to achieve superhuman feats, both successful and unsuccessful, has existed since the ancient times and is deeply woven into Greek mythology. [Kaplan]

The company’s efforts to improve safety were apparently successful, at least according to the company’s own data, which showed that the frequency of incidents with the potential to cause a serious accident declined significantly. [ETS]

That minimal model helped C++ to be successful on essentially every computing platform.

The integrity of applications for which the unpredictability of the result is vital, such as lotteries or data encryption, can be best preserved by using a method of random number generation that is truly random. [Kaplan]

These random numbers are sequences of values produced according to mathematical formulas, rather than unguessable (“truly random”) numbers that could be obtained from a physical process, such as radioactive decay or solar radiation. If the implementation has such a truly random device, it will be represented as a **random\_device**.

If an implementation is able to offer a truly random number generator, that source of random numbers is presented as a uniform random number generator called **random\_device**.

Britain is attractive to worldwide advertisers because it is a uniform market, so there is no need to tailor advertisements for different parts of the country. [ETS]

A *uniform random number generator* is a function object returning unsigned integer values such that each value in the range of possible results has (ideally) equal probability of being returned. A *random number engine* (an engine) is a uniform random number generator that can be created with a default state **E{}** or with a state determined by a seed **E{s}**.

True random number generation often depends on measurement of an unpredictable physical phenomenon, such as weather patterns or atmospheric radiation, and using that measurement as an input to generate a result. [Kaplan]

In fact, to make games unpredictable, it is often useful to pick a seed from the environment of a program.

A recent study suggests that vitamin E supplements, despite widespread belief in their usefulness, are no better than sugar pills for delaying the onset of the degenerative disease. [ETS]

The idea is that to be useful, a language feature must not only be elegant, it must also be affordable in the context of a real-world program.

James W. Coleman’s book on John Edgar Wideman’s literary career addresses the needs of a general, if well-read, public rather than the esoteric vanities of scholarly specialists, whom he neither ignores nor flatters. [ETS]

The reason my name appears so often is (I hope) not vanity, but simply that I chose to work on what I consider important.