

How To Write Good

We don't know where this came from, but some is derived from William Safire's Rules for Writers

1. Always avoid alliteration.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid cliches like the plague--they're old hat.
4. Employ the vernacular.
5. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
6. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
7. Parenthetical words however must be enclosed in commas.
8. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
9. Contractions aren't necessary.
10. Do not use a foreign word when there is an adequate English quid pro quo.
11. One should never generalize.
12. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said: "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
13. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
14. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
15. It behooves you to avoid archaic expressions.
16. Avoid archaic spellings too.
17. Understatement is always best.
18. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
19. One-word sentences? Eliminate. Always!
20. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
21. The passive voice should not be used.
22. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
23. Don't repeat yourself, or say again what you have said before.
24. Who needs rhetorical questions?
25. Don't use commas, that, are not, necessary.
26. Do not use hyperbole; not one in a million can do it effectively.
27. Never use a big word when a diminutive alternative would suffice.
28. Subject and verb always has to agree.
29. Be more or less specific.
30. Placing a comma between subject and predicate, is not correct.
31. Use your spell checker to avoid misspelling and to catch typographical errors.
32. Don't repeat yourself, or say again what you have said before.
33. Don't be redundant.
34. Use the apostrophe in its proper place and omit it when it's not needed.
35. Don't never use no double negatives.
36. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.
37. Hopefully, you will use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
38. Eschew obfuscation.
39. No sentence fragments.
40. Don't indulge in sesquipedalian lexicological constructions.
41. A writer must not shift your point of view.
42. Don't overuse exclamation marks!!
43. Place pronouns as close as possible, especially in long sentences, as of 10 or more words, to their antecedents.
44. Writing carefully, dangling participles must be avoided.
45. If any word is improper at the end of a sentence, a linking verb is.
46. Avoid trendy locutions that sound flaky.
47. Everyone should be careful to use a singular pronoun with singular nouns in their writing.
48. Always pick on the correct idiom.
49. The adverb always follows the verb.
50. Take the bull by the hand and avoid mixing metaphors.
51. If you reread your work, you can find on rereading a great deal of repetition can be by rereading and editing.
52. And always be sure to finish what

<http://www.plainlanguage.gov/library/writegood.htm>

1. Always avoid alliteration at all opportunities.
2. Cliches are like killing flies with a shotgun and should be avoided like the plague.
3. Try to avoid abbrev. & ampersands.
4. Don't use contradictions. They're unnecessary.
5. Exaggeration is the greatest evil in writing and will doom you to eternal damnation in the lowest depths of Hades.
6. You should never shift my point of view in his writing.
7. Don't repeat yourself. It is redundant and should be avoided because of it's repetitiveness since it is superfluous.
8. Due knot all ways rely on a spell Czech two due you're work four ewe.
9. Don't use no double negatives. Don't never use no triples nor quadruples neither.
10. Just between you and I, case is important.
11. One word sentences? Avoid.
12. Sentence fragments.
13. Commas, are not, always, neccesary.
14. Try to avoid split infinitives.
15. The passive tense is to be avoided.
16. Similies are like a snake with feathers, pointless.
17. Together easiy, clauses should go.
18. One should never generalize.
19. Why would one use a rhetorical question?
20. Profanity sucks.
21. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson put it, "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
22. Parenthesis (although helpful) can usually be avoided.
23. Do not use hyphens to connect all two-word phrases.
24. A verb need to agrees with the noun.
25. Don't verbify nouns.
26. A preposition should never be used to end sentences with.
27. Sarcasm in writing is good. Really.
28. One can use statistics to prove anything. 41% of people know that.
29. only capitalize Proper Nouns and the beginnings of Sentences.
30. Don't contradict yourself in writing.
31. Contradictions can be used when desired.
32. Its important to put apostrophe's where necessary.
33. Do not actuate singular utterances to influence the persuasions of others because it becomes extrinsic, extraneous, and incommodious to fathom.
34. Make sure the anticedent is modifies in it.
35. Always proofread to check for any missing .
36. Commas can be used to separate in lists multiple modifiers letter heads clause separations and such.
37. In writing; punctuation. should be double checked:
38. Make sure to acknowledge sources and help, as someone said.
39. Brevity is...wit.
40. Lying in writing is acceptable and fine.
41. Slang may be hip and groovy at the time, but can get old fast (and that ain't no jive)
42. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
43. Poetry is the only time, when one should try to rhyme. In just regular prose, all it brings is reading woes.
44. Avoid run-on sentences through the use of punctuation as well as dividing the single sentence into a series of smaller sentences for the sake of the reader not having to read a really long sentence especially since such sentences become redundant and hard to understand.
45. Ye shouldeth always be in avoidance of olde English.
46. Overused adjectives aren't good.
47. Don't use made up words like kajillions of other amatuer writers.
48. Using an idiom can leave the author in a pickle.
49. Foreign phrases should be avoided a outrance.
50. Don't ya' be usin' no Ebonics, 'cuz it don't be no real language.
51. Colloquailisms just don't cut it in writing.
52. Alot of words are not one word, but two.
53. When used in writing, modifiers can be confusing.
54. Never reveal everything you know.

<http://www.kenston.k12.oh.us/khs/english/writinggood.htm>

1. What a nice night for an evening.
2. Whenever I think of the past, it brings back so many memories.
3. Some people say that I'm superficial, but that's just on the surface.
4. On one hand, I'm indecisive; but on the other, I'm not.
5. If there's one thing I can't stand, it's intolerance.
6. The world's full of apathy, but I don't care.
7. Perspective is in the eye of the beholder.
8. Prejudiced people are all alike.
9. Those who judge others will burn in Hell!
10. Exaggeration is not all it's cracked up to be.
11. I'm still not sure if I understand ambiguity.
12. There's no such thing as nonexistence.
13. Cooperation can only be reached if we work together.
14. As far as I'm concerned, treachery will sometimes bring loyalty into question.
15. It doesn't matter what temperature a room is; it's always room temperature.
16. Avoid cliches like the plague.
17. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
18. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
19. I always try to do things in chronological order.
20. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
21. Death to all fanatics!
22. An oral contract isn't worth the paper it's written on.
23. Don't chew [or eat] with your mouth full.
24. It's deja vu all over again.
25. I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous!
26. I always wanted to be a procrastinator!
27. Rehab is for quitters!
28. Don't be redundant by repeating yourself.
29. Some people type so fast that forget to include
30. I am becoming increasingly worried that there isn't enough anxiety in my life.
31. I have this nagging fear that everyone is out to make me paranoid.
32. Free advice is worth what you paid for it.
33. Entropy just isn't what it used to be.
34. I keep telling myself that I am a pathological liar, but I am not sure if I believe it.
35. Not only am I redundant & superfluous, but I also tend to use more words than necessary.
36. Honk if you love peace and quiet.
37. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
38. Give me ambiguity or give me something else.
39. Always be on the lookout for conspicuousness otherwise it's hard to tell if someone is inconspicuous.
40. He doesn't have much of a reputation, or so I've heard.
41. I disagree with unanimity.
42. I have my doubts about disbelief.
43. Avoid Alliteration. Always.
44. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
45. Always and never are two words you should always remember never to use.
46. I always wanted to be a procrastinator... never got around to it.

<http://www.brainofbrian.com/quotes-irony.html>