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AUTHOR Consol, Colleen

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ABSTRACT

Developed by educators from the Emily Griffith Opportunity School for a workplace literacy program for a large county agency, this teacher's guide integrates collaborative learning techniques and research into teaching the writing process. Techniques include whole group activities and discussions, partner activities, team activities, and peer editing. The 10-week course contains 20 lesson plans covering the following topics: introduction, course overview, needs assessment, and writing samples; the writing process; principles of composition (active vs. passive voice); principles of composition II; levels of edit; memo revision and editing; principles of organization, and effective use of headings and graphics; copyediting; midterm writing assignment; peer editing; individual writing conferences; principles of wording and phrasing; principles of tone I and II; principles of persuasive writing--resumes; interviewing resume partners; peer editing of resumes; principles of persuasion--cover letters; cover letters II; and closure, evaluations, and certificates. Lesson plans consist of objectives, activities, supplementary materials, suggested time, learning activities narrative paired with instructor's notes, and student handouts. (KC)



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INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

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Colleen Consol

Emily Griffith Opportunity School 1250 Welton Street Denver, Colorado 80204

May 31, 1994



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

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Colleen Consol

May 31, 1994



INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKPLACE LITERACY PROJECT

This module was developed by educators from Emily Griffith Opportunity School as part of a National Workplace Education grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education. A cooperative effort between the business and education communities, the program was designed specifically to enhance employees' literacy skills.

Direct benefits to the workforce include improved morale and motivation, self-esteem, team work, and promotional opportunities.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of our partners. In addition we recognize all of the students who participated in classes and who provided us with invaluable feedback for strengthening future classes.

We hope partnerships such as these will provide the catalyst for developing new or continued on-site educational opportunities.



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OVERVIEW

In business today companies are requiring their employees to become more effective team players; to work together rather than in isolation. Writing is one of the major areas in which employees are asked to work together to produce a better document. This curriculum was developed for a large county agency and consistently integrates collaborative learning techniques and research into the writing process. These techniques include whole group activities/discussions, partner activities, and team activities. Current research for paragraphing text and peer editing are also applied.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives for Interactive Business Writing include

- Mastering the major steps in the writing process, i.e. planning, drafting, and revising.
- Applying principles of composition which include using the active voice (and the passive voice when appropriate), direct language, and positive phrasing.
- Applying principles of organization and formatting to produce and enhance business documents.
- Working collaboratively to benefit from the knowledge, skills, and perspectives of other employees.

CURRICULUM DESIGN AND APPLICATION

This curriculum was created and used in a large, urban county agency. Twelve employees, referred to as "participants" in the curriculum, completed the 10-week course. All employees wrote correspondence and/or instructional



materials in their current positions and enrolled in the course to improve their writing skills.

Each participant purchased the text, *The Elements of Business Writing* by Gary Blake and Robert W. Bly, from the instructor. The scope of the text well-matched the needs of the participants. However, materials covering comparable topics from other books and sources can be effectively substituted for the text.

Instructors are encouraged to evaluate this curriculum relative to the needs, skills, and cultural factors of their particular class. This curriculum is designed for 20, 90 minute sessions and covers topics such as complaints, resume, and cover letter writing. The session length and topics may not be appropriate for other classes. Both factors, session length and choice of topics, can be altered or substituted, using the course objectives as guidelines.



INTRODUCTIONS, COURSE OVERVIEW, NEEDS ASSESSMENT, WRITING SAMPLE

OBJECTIVES:

- To acquaint participants with each other and the instructor
- To provide an accurate overview of the class
- To register participants in the class
- To obtain a prewriting sample (and needs assessment if not obtained before the class)

ACTIVITIES:

- Partner introductions (participants interview each other and introduce their partner to the class)
- Whole group discussions
- Individual writing activities

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Text (Optional)
- Registration forms
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Introductions: Instructor briefly introduces himself/herself to class.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Partner activity: Participants pair-off and spend 15 minutes interviewing each other; answering such questions as name, department, general job description, hobbies.	Course Overview: 1. After completing this module, participants will be able to A. Use the writing process to write effective, well-organized business correspondence.
	B. Use collaborative methods to fully participate in the writing process.
	C. Use formatting (and graphics if available) to enhance the effectiveness of documents.
	D. Demonstrate proficient copyediting skills.
	2. Brief discussion of different types of writing, i.e. writing to express ourselves (expressive writing) vs. writing to get things done (transactional writing).
	Registration: Participants complete the appropriate registration forms.
	Writing Sample: See Handout 1.1, Instructor's Copy
	Needs Assessment Inventory: See Handout 1.2



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING WRITING SAMPLE (PRETEST)

- 1. Today you found out that you have a new boss! Not only do you have a new boss, but your new boss wants a written account of your job responsibilities. On another sheet of paper, write a letter of introduction to your new boss and provide the information she has requested.
- 2. Edit the following paragraph. Look for errors in capitalization, spelling, and grammar.

This report focuses on the prparation of resumes and what personnal mangers would like to be included in them. much r esearchwas done and serveral wources was used to find out what personnel administraters look forin a resume.

Information was obtained frme questionaires, interviews, and secondary sources, such as books and periodicls. This report will not discuss what is presently being taught in class rooms or placement office's about the preparation of resumes.

In the past students in colleges and university's have been taught several different ways to prepare a resume, however, they are still unsure as to weather to include certain items on there resume because they don't knowif the perspective employer "likes it that way".



HANDOUT 1.2

NEEDS ASSESSMEN'T INVENTORY Interactive Business Writing

1.	Do you enjoy writing? If so, what types of writing do you enjoy? Why?
	If you <u>don't</u> enjoy writing, what factors have made writing a negative experience for you?
2.	Why <u>specifically</u> are you taking this writing class? For example, are you taking this class to improve your organizational writing skills, editing skills, and/or expressive skills?

- 3. In your <u>current</u> position, how much of your time is spent writing? What is the nature of this writing (memos, letters, reports)?
- 4. What are your career goals and/or educational goals? How will this course advance those goals?
- 5. What computer software programs do you know? What is your level of proficiency?



THE WRITING PROCESS

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide participants with an understanding of the process vs. product approach to writing
- To present an overview of the writing process
- To discuss, model, and practice the planning stage of the writing process

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussions
- Individual prewriting activities

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

- Overhead projector or chalkboard
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Mini-Lecture: Process vs. product approach to writing. A. Old approach: Writing is a linear activity; good writers write well with few revisions.
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	B. New approach: Writing is an iterative, circular process consisting of planning, drafting, and revising phases. These phases may be repeated in no particular order during the revision process. Unlike the product approach, writing as a process uses a variety of strategies; many of them collaborative.
Individual Activity: Participants examine Handout 2.1	Overview of the Writing Process: (Handout 2.1 see Instructor's Copy)
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 2.2	The Writing ProcessPlanning the Document: Prewriting Analysis Sheet (Handout 2.2see Instructor's Copy)
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 2.3 and examine Handout 2.4.	Prewriting Strategies: Handouts 2.3 (See instructor's copy) and 2.4.
Individual Activity: Participants select 1 prewriting strategy to write about a topic of their choice (or from a list of suggestions)	
from a list of suggestions).	Additional Prewriting Practice: Have participants pair-off. Give participants Handout 2.5 without any instructions except "Do something with this list." Allow approximately 10 minutes for this activity.



Lesson 2

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Individual Activity: Bumper Sticker Activity: Participants "do something" with Handout 2.5	
	Bumper Sticker Follow-Up Activity: Ask participants what they
Whole Group Discussion	did with the list. Did they find ways to organize the list; to create categories? Were any of the prewriting strategies helpful in completing this task?



OVERVIEW OF THE WRITING PROCESS

PLAN

Determine Purpose

Determine Audience

Use prewriting strategies (free-writing, brainstorming, clustering, incubating, drawing).

Organize information (outlining, creating headlines).

DRAFT

Write first draft

REVISE

Revise document (developmental edit)

Edit document (copyedit)

Write second or final draft



PREWRITING ANALYSIS SHEET

1. PURPOSE

Why am I writing this?

Possible Reasons

to inform to announce to propose to persuade to analyze to motivate to recommend to request to instruct

If the reader forgets everything else, what one key point do I want remembered?

Is writing the most effective way to communicate this information? Would a phone call, meeting, or video conference be as or more effective?

2. AUDIENCE

Who will be reading this?

What does the reader know about the subject? If this is new information to the reader, what material must I supply to make it meaningful?

What is the reader's style, i.e. formal, conversational?



PREWRITING STRATEGIES

Freewriting Brainstorming Treeing TDC Clustering Incubating Outlining (Formal or Informal) See Handout 2.4 Drawing



OUTLINING

After completing your start-up strategies, i.e. brainstorming, post-it notes, questioning, it's time to create categories for the ideas you have generated.

After getting your ideas on paper, the next step is organizing them. Outlining, using either a formal, informal, or brainstorming format, is an excellent method to begin the organizational process. An example of the traditional format for outlining is as follows:

- I. Introduction/Overview
- II. Transitional statement
- III. Main Point
 - A. Subpoint
 - 1. Evidence
 - 2. Evidence
 - B. Subpoint
 - 1. Evidence
 - a. Sub-evidence
 - b. Sub-evidence
 - 2. Evidence
- IV. Main Point
 - A. Subpoint
 - B. Subpoint
 - C. Subpoint
- V. Main Point
 - A. Subpoint
 - B. Subpoint
- VI. Conclusion



OUTLINING (cont'd)

If you find the above format too rigid, you may find that the following informal outlining style fits your style better.

- 1. Introduction/Overview
- 2. Transitional statement
- 3. Main Point
 - Subpoint
 - Subpoint
 - Supporting evidence
 - Supporting evidence
- 4. Main Point
 - Subpoint
 - Subpoint
- 5. Conclusion



Handout 2.5

The following is a list of bumper stickers. Do something with this list.

Square Dancer Work for It -- I did!!! Archaeologists Will Date Any Old Thing Nixon Now!!! Four More Years He'll Bring Us Together I Found It! Will Rogers Never Met Ronald Reagan You Just Can't Beat Idaho Jack **Rabbits** Have you dug...Wall Drug Garden of the Gods Since I've Given Up Hope I Feel Much Better I'd Rather Go Fishing Freeze Voter Electricians Remove Your Shorts My ex drives a Hyundai Baby in Back When God Created Man, She was Only Joking Have You Hugged Your Banjo Today? Native Life is a Beach My Other Car is a Broom

Have You Hugged Your Child Today In Search of the Eternal Buzz Eagles Forever Everyone Looks Good After 2:00 Visualize Using Your Turn Signal Don't Blame Me--I Didn't Vote for Her Bats Need Friends Too A Woman's Place is in the Mall Hate is not a Family Value Kill Your Television A Mind is Like A Parachute -- It Only Works When Open Caution--Driver Applying Makeup **Upwardly Conscious** It's Time to Pull Over and Change the Air in Your Head Prisoners of War -- Bring them home alive A tiny speck in a ruthless universe Happiness is Yelling Bingo My Karma Just Ran Over Your Dogma Money isn't everything but is sure keeps the kids in touch

Adapted from:
Thirteen Weeks: A Guide to
Teaching College Writing
by Irvin Hashimoto



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REVIEW OF WRITING PROCESS PRINCIPLES OF COMPOSITION: ACTIVE VS. PASSIVE VOICE

OBJECTIVES:

- To review the writing process
- To review subject/predicate relationships in a sentence
- To discuss and provide guideà practice in active and passive voices

ACTIVITIES:

- Team memo writing activity
- Individual revision exercise
- Whole group discussions

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

- Overhead projector or chalkboard
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion	Review of Writing Process: Quickly review the major parts of the writing process, i.e. planning, drafting, and revising. Also review Handouts 2.3 and 2.4 (prewriting strategies)



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Team Activity: After teams have selected their topic, they use a variety of prewriting strategies to create a rough draft of their topic. One member of the team presents his/her draft to the class.	Create 3 or 4 teams (depending on the number of participants). Have one person from each team choose a topic that's written on a piece of paper. Suggested topics: 1. Write a petition to your city council opposing 2. Write an antidrug slogan for an advertising campaign with kids as the targeted population. 3. Write a memo to all staff about a new time-off policy. 4. Write a letter to an old friend.
Whole Group Discussion	Follow-Up Memo Activity: After teams have presented their drafts, discuss what decisions they made in the process regarding purpose, audience, prewriting strategies.
Whole Class Activity: On a voluntary basis, participants identify the subject and predicate for sentences on the board or overhead.	PRINCIPLES OF COMPOSITION Review Subject/Predicate: Write 10-15 sentences on the board or transparency. Have the class tell you what is the subject and predicate for each sentence.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	1. Active vs. Passive Voice: In business writing, the active voice is preferred. In the active oice, the subject performs the action. Use of the active voice results in more concise and direct sentences. However, there are circumstances when the passive voice is appropriate, e.g. when the doer of the action is less important than the action itself.
Individual Activity: Participants	After illustrating the differences (and advantages of the active voice), have participants complete Handout 3.1 (see Instructor's Copy)
complete Handout 3.1	2. Use Simple, Direct Language: Everyone is busy. Convoluted, pseudo-intellectual language offends people and is an obstacle to good communication. Ask participants to bring in correspondence with examples of these kinds of language violations.
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 3.2	After providing several common examples of direct vs. indirect language, have participants complete Handout 3.2 (see Instructor's Copy)
Assignment: Remind participants to bring in examples of indirect, convoluted language in business correspondence.	



HANDOUT 3.1

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

In the following sentences, if the sentence is in the passive voice, rewrite it in the active voice and vice versa.

- 1. The contract was broken by the agency.
- 2. It was found that all claims were being suspended due to a computer error.
- 3. John presented the new product line to all three companies.
- 4. It was requested by the member that his policy be terminated.
- 5. Payroll mailed the checks last week.
- 6. The media asked the new director many personal questions.
- 7. The new guidelines are being printed by reprographics.
- 8. In 1983 the America's Cup races were won by Australia.
- 9. Mark Twain wrote many important nc 'els.
- 10. The financial statement was faxed to the manager.



HANDOUT 3.2

REVISION EXERCISE

Make the following paragraphs more effective by eliminating the passive voice and unnecessary words.

1. It has been requested that a supply list for our department be developed to save secretaries time in ordering supplies. It has also been requested that we obtain a special cost center number for each department to use when they order their supplies.

2. At this point in time, it is necessary for the healthcare industry to reexamine their basic and fundamental concepts and the way they are perceived by the public.

3. There has been no significant change regarding this issue since my first original report of May 15. As the report states, it was decided by the new board members to tentatively drop the retiree luncheon due to lack of funds.



PRINCIPLES OF COMPOSITION, CONCLUSION

OBJECTIVES:

- To review and practice parallelism in writing
- To explain and illustrate paragraphing theory
- To provide editing practice

ACTIVITIES:

- Individual activities
- Team editing activity
- Whole group discussions

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Handouts
- Overhead projector or chalkboard

Time: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	PRINCIPLES OF COMPOSITIONCONCLUSION
Whole Group Discussion	Ask participants for examples of inflated business prose.



Lesson 4

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 4.1	3. Keep ideas and/or items parallel. Review the principles of parallelism, including parallelism in sentences and vertical lists. Have participants complete Handout 4.1 (see Instructor's copy) 4. Use short paragraphs. Review the criteria for paragraphs.
Whole Group Activity: Participants evaluate which of one of the 3 memos is "correct" in terms of paragraphing.	To demonstrate paragraphing theory, show participants 3 memos (see Handouts 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4): one with long paragraphs; one with very short paragraphs; one with average length paragraphs. Using only visual cues, participants will select the paragraph of average length as the correct memo. This exercise demonstrates that people have a visual set of what paragraphs should look like and make decisions whether a text is "correct" or not. This factor needs to be considere in writing business correspondence.



2ა

Lesson 4

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Team Activity: In groups of 3 or 4, participants rewrite a memo, integrating the processes and concepts discussed so far in the course.	Review (Integrated Activity): Select either the memo with too long or too short paragraphs used in the above activity. In teams, have participants rewrite the memo to the
Whole Group Discussion: When finished, each team shares their rough-draft version with the whole group.	first draft stage. Before they begin this activity, review the prewriting strategies in the writing process and the principles of composition discussed so far in the course.



EXERCISES IN PARALLELISM

Finish the series in the following sentences so all items are parallel.

1.	On her vacation she visited museums, talked to relatives, and	
2.	The new computer is fast, efficient, and	
3.	She carefully, slowly, and picked up the evidence and placed it in an envelope.	
4.	The busy toddler kicked the ball, screamed at the cat, and before finally falling asleep.	
5.	The sun shines, the moon glows, and the stars	



EXERCISES IN PARALLELISM

Rewrite the following vertical lists so that all items are parallel.

1. Demonstrated ability to

Organize

Excellent supervisory skills

Effective communication skills

Attention to detail

2. Activities include

Skiing

Bowling

Fish

Hiking

3. In order to process you application, we need the following information:

An unofficial copy of your latest college transcript

Birth certificate

Social Security Card

Several letters of recommendation from past employers

4. Major points to consider in purchasing a home include:

Location

Do you really like this house?

Price

What school district is the house in





HANDOUT 4.2

Learning to Read Program

Opening new worlds

Dear Director,

Worrying about how in the world you are going to implement the Certificate of Accomplishment process?

Well, we were wondering too, but we've solved that problem

for our program and may have a solution for you.

The Learning to Read Program has been awarded a developmental grant with which to develop a curriculum kit for each of the three levels of certificates. Each kit will consist of files for each of the competencies listed on the back of the certificates. Each file will contain three types of materials: curricular materials to use in teaching the competency, DE-suggested verification materials to prove mastery, and a reference to the textbook materials DE has recommended for that competency. In most cases the file will also include teacher-developed activities.

These kits are being developed by the Learning to Read Program's Tutor/Student Coordinator, has a master's degree in reading and certification in recently came to the Learning learning disabilities. to Read Program after serving as the director of the Developmental Reading Program at the College of the . She has taught adult basic education for in North four years and taught in public schools for fourteen years before that. She has extensive experience in designing curriculum and teaching at all levels of kindergarten through She is well-qualified to develop these kits and is spending twenty-five hours per week on them until all three is working with DE consultants to be are finished. sure that the kits she is developing are in line with the Certificate Curriculum Guide.

As mentioned we are doing this with a developmental grant. That means that the granting agency expects us to recover our costs. We plan to do that by copyrighting our kits and selling them to any other program that wishes to buy them.

I realize that your program may have already developed kits such as these or may have already purchased many of the books cited in DE's curriculum guide, eliminating your need for anything else. If so, congratulations, you are ahead of us, that's for sure! But if you have been worrying about this, feel that you don't have the staff time to do this, then you may want to consider buying our kits. In that case, please call us at

Sincerely,



BIO MIC Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc. Camp Hill, IN 17012

BLK RT CAR-RT SORT ** CR55 Name Address City, State

Dear Ms.

This letter is going to be short and to the point. We don't want to make a big thing of it. Not yet, anyway.

we'd like to invite you to take advantage of what we call our "no-strings" membership.

This offer extends our typically generous introduction to you: choose any 4 books for \$1 each.

But it omits the usual obligation to buy four more books. You don't have to buy even one more book.

In other words, you can join Book-of-the-Month Club, take your welcoming package of 4 books (saving up to \$100 or more), and never buy another thing from us.

It's an experiment for us. Will this attract the kind of reader who will appreciate our other Club benefits as well as the introductory offer?

It's an experiment for you. A way to try us without tying yourself down to a commitment.

So enjoy all the Club benefits you wish. Just as if you were a committed member. We've put it all in writing. Take any 4 books for \$1 each, plus shipping and handling, with no obligation to buy anything else. The rest is up to you.

I can't imagine a bigger bargain for the reader. Can you?

Sincerely,

George Artandi President

P.S. This offer isn't available to everyone. It isn't transferable. But, if you do decide to join and become a member of the Club, we can understand why you might want to share the news of your "no-strings" membership with a special friend or two. In that event, ask them to write me and mention your name.



HANDOUT 4.4

February 26, 19

TO: ALL EMPLOYEES

FROM:

SUBJECT: REGIONAL MANAGEMENT VISIT

, Regional Vice President, and , Regional Operations Manager, will be visiting us March 3-5. The main thrust of this visit is to observe the "inside" of our operational and administrative areas.

I encourage you to be yourselves. You are all to be commended for your work ethic and that is reflected in the appearance of you and your work area. Let's make sure that during this visit our pride in a job well done is reflected.

As stated in the past, Denver management has an "open door" policy. This in principle, extends to our Regional Managers. If you have a desire to express yourself and/or feelings to our visitors, please do so. They, as we, believe that "Care" and they care enough to encourage your comments.

I look forward to their positive comments as a result of observing us in action!

Sincerely,



EDITING PRETEST LEVELS OF EDIT

OBJECTIVES:

- To establish an editing skills baseline
- To introduce, discuss, and practice levels of edit

ACTIVITIES:

- Individual activities
- Whole group discussions

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Handouts
- Overhead projector or chalkboard

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Individual Activity: Participants will complete editing pretest (Handout 5.1)	Editing Pretest: Have participants complete editing pretest (Handout 5.1see Instructor's copy)



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Levels of Edit: After participants have completed the editing pretest, introduce levels of edit (Handout 5.2) and discuss with the group. Use Handout 5.3 when discussing MOCs and LOCs.
Whole Group Discussion: Participants examine levels of edit (Handouts 5.2 and 5.3)	
	Have participants evaluate the editing pretest according to levels of edit.
Participants evaluate editing pretest memo (Handout 5.1) according to levels of edit.	
	Evaluating Pretest: Participants grade their pretests while the instructor makes the necessary copyediting marks on an overhead transparency.
Individual Activity: Participants grade responses (using different color ink) on the editing pretest. When grading is finished, participants return pretest to the instructor.	



February 10 1994

ABC Corporation Attn: Elsie Fogg 123 Princeton Drive Denver CO 80000

RE: Your Own Corporate Newsletter

Dear Ms Fogg

Attractive well written newletters are a recognized and effective way to communicate effectively with employees. Your Company's Best is published quarterly and is in a four color four page format. This publication offers timely articles on employee wellness programs consumer buying tips and retirement options. And you can add your own articles allowing you to create a newsletter that truly becomes your own.

There are several reasons why Your Company's Best can provide your company with the customised newsletter you've been looking for.

- you can offer employees lively timely topics.
- you can stretch your staff time. Your staff can focus on other important projects because we produce the newsletter for you.
- you get exclusivity in your market. You won't see other competitors using these newsletters in your local market.
- you get extra value for the dollars you invest. You get full color impact at two color prices with our volume printing discounts.

I look forward to talking with you in the near future about this exciting newsletter product.

Sincerely

Sally Sue Ship Account Representitive



HANDOUT 5.2

LEVELS OF EDIT

Higher Order Concerns (HOCs): Looking at the Whole

Focus:

Topic is clearly defined

Purpose:

Reason for writing is clear

Organization:

Follows a logical order

Middle Order Concerns (MOCs): Looking at the Parts

Run-on sentences

Fragments

Subject-Verb agreement

Vocabulary

general wording

Clichés

overused phrases and words passive voice; incorrect tenses

Verbs Pronoun

antecedent agreement

Vague pronouns and unclear references

Lower Order Concerns (LOCs): Looking at the Fine Print

Apostrophes
Quotations
Spelling
Punctuation
Capitalization



Lesson 5

HANDOUT 5.3

PROO	FREA	DER	SMA	RKS

- Add space

We bought a new car.

We bought a new car.

Awk

Awkward sentence

Rewrite sentence

Capitalize

Susie attends wheaton college.

Susie attends Wheaton College.

(Change the order

We will (tomorrow) see you

We will see you tomorrow.

Close up space

I cannot do it to ay.

I cannot do it today.

🖰 Delete

I am am an avid reader.

I am an avid reader.

And the wind blows

The wind blows.

arrived early.

Insert a comma

He is new supervisor.

He is the new supervisor. Jane, Bob, and Tom

Insert a period

Dr Gray is my boss.

Dr. Gray is my boss.

Let it stand; ignore correction

Jean has been a elece friend for many years.

Jane, Bob, and Tom arrived early.

Jean has been a close friend for many years.

Lower case

He contacted the committee.

He contacted the committee

Move left

You are not able to access the confidential information. You are not able to access the confidential information.

] Move right

Tommy's basketball team has never won a game.

Tommy's basketball team has never won a game.

¶ Paragraph

The stores are having a big sale this weekend.

The stores are having a big sale this weekend.

No¶ - No paragraph

The house was very large. nog It had five bedrooms! The house was very large. It had five bedrooms!

Spell out

2891 Mason (Ave)

2891 Mason Avenue

Underline

I just read Growing Up.

I just read Growing Up.

/2-orun-on sentence

He was an interesting man and he lectured throughout the world.

He was an interesting man He lectured throughout the world.

pronoun reference

Each of the girls has offered their Each of the girls has help.

offered her help.

INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING



MEMO KEVISION USING PRINCIPLES OF COMPOSITION EDITING LESSON

OBJECTIVES:

- To practice prewriting, drafting, and editing skills
- To introduce, model, and practice peer editing

ACTIVITIES:

- Individual writing activity
- Whole group discussion
- Partner activity (peer editing)

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Review (Writing Activity): After reviewing the steps in the planning stage of the writing process, participants write a first draft revision of Handout 5.1 (pretest editing memo).



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Individual Activity: Participants write a first draft revision of Handout 5.1.	
	Peer Editing: After completing a first draft, introduce, discuss and model peer editing (see Handout 6.1). Pair-off participants so each has an editing partner. Before participants begin this activity, remind them of the levels of edit discussed in Lesson 5, Handout 5.2.
Partner Activity: Editing pairs take turns editing each other's first draft.	
Whole Group Discussion: The class as a whole discusses their first experience, pro and con, with peer editing.	
Assignment: Participants write a final draft to bring to the next session.	



HANDOUT 6.1

EDITING TECHNIQUES

PQP METHOD:

P = Praise What is good about the writing? Why is it good?

What doesn't need revision?

Q = Question As the reader, what don't you understand?

P= Polish What specific suggestions for the final draft can you

offer the writer?

Adapted from "Peer Response:
Teaching Specific Revision
Suggestions" by Gloria A. Neubert and
Sally J. McNelis, English Journal,

September 1990.

COMMENTS ON COMMENTS

The success of the editing process depends on how helpful the comments are to the writer. Please read and become aware of the following types of comments:

Vague Comments: Comments that are full of generalities. These types of comments offer little or no specific direction for revision. Examples of vague comments are, "I really like it.", "Good job!", or "I like the ending."

General, but Useful: Comments that are still too general but provide some direction for revision. An example of a general but useful comment is, "Describe your skills in more detail."

Specific: Comments that provide the writer with specific direction for revision. Examples of a specific comment are, "What kinds of computer software can you use?", "How extensive is your accounting experience?", and "It's not clear why you left your last job."



PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIZATION--METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF HEADINGS AND GRAPHICS

OBJECTIVES:

- To introduce, discuss, and practice the most common methods of development used in business writing
- To introduce and demonstrate why and how headings and graphics can be used to increase a document's effectiveness

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion
- Team jigsaw activity
- Whole group brainstorming activity

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

- Memo cut into sections
- Overhead projector
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Collect Writing Assignment (final draft) of Handout 5.1 rewrite)



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIZATION
Individual Activity: Participants examine Handout 7.1.	1. Method of Development: Business correspondence is arranged (developed) according to its purpose. There are four common methods of development (see Handout 7.1 Instructor's Copy).
	Use Handout 7.2 to illustrate an example of least important to most important development.
	Practice: Give teams an envelope with a samp! memo cut-up into sections. (Each team has a different memo. For sample memos, see Handouts 7.2 - 7.5). Give teams sufficient time to arrange the memo in what they think is the proper order. Make a transparency of each original. Using an overhead projector, compare the original memo with the new order created by each team.
Team Activity: Teams of 3 or 4 participants try to arrange a memo (given to them in sections) in what they determine is the correct order.	



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion: Teams compare their results to the original (shown on the overhead projector). Differences are discussed and evaluated.	2. Use headings and subheadings to guide the reader through the document. Have participants examine Handout 7.6. This handout, which is a revision of Handout 7.3, shows how headings can make information more
Whole Group Discussion:	accessible to the reader.
Participants examine Handout 7.6 and determine if and how the use of headings improves the document's effectiveness.	Give participants Handout 7.7 , which lists common headings used in business documents.
	(If available, show more documents specific to the worksite where headings increase effectiveness).
	3. Use graphics to enhance the impact of the message. Sometimes, writing less and using graphics more increases the impact of the document.
Whole Group Brainstorming Activity: The class brainstorms the different ways graphics can be used to showcase or replace writing.	Show participants Handouts 7.8 and 7.9 as examples.



HANDOUT 7.1

4 MOST COMMON METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT (M.O.D.)

- 1. Order of Importance
 - A. Most important to least important
 - B. Least important to most important
- 2. Chronological
- 3. Specific to General

General to Specific

4. Comparison/Contrast



HANDOUT 7.2



150 Sheridan Boulevard
Denver, Colorado 80226
Telephone (303) 922-8454
FAX # (303) 922-5835
A Division of Midwest Business College, Inc.

September 25, 1992

J. 276 South Denver, CO

Dear Ms.

We would like to thank you for submitting your resume and letter of application for the advertised instructional position at Barnes.

In filling a position we must consider the educational degree as well as the work background of the applicant. Selection of applicants for part-time and substitute positions is very difficult because so many qualified people apply.

As of this date, you have not been among those selected for an interview. However, your resume and letter of application will be kept on file and will be reviewed if an opening should occur in an area for which you are qualified.

Thank you for the interest you have shown in Barnes Business College.

Yours truly,

Clegalide Kupinski

Elizabeth Krupinski Evening Educational Coordinator

Bob Conley

Evening Educational Coordinator

db



December 10, 1992

HANDOUT 7.3

MEMORANDUM TO ALL

PROGRAM MANAGERS

All employees are invited to attend a one-day training seminar on February 24, 1993 at the Sheraton Denver Tech Center, 4900 DTC Parkway, Denver, Colorado. The seminar is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with pre-registration at 7:30 a.m.

Since parking was a problem at the last seminar we suggest that you either carpool or plan to arrive for early registration.

There will be twelve different training sessions covering areas of interest for all employees. The Women's Subcommittee has incorporated some of the suggestions presented at the last seminar. As you will note in the registration form, each participant will have a choice of topics for the morning and afternoon, or one all day session. Since there is a limitation on the number of participants for some of the classes, early registration is recommended.

Our Keynote Speaker will be owner of Seminars, and publisher of Illuminating Ideas, a quarterly neadletter. Ms. was recently elected Vice Chair of the Women's Chamber of Commerce.

All registration forms must be received by the registrar by Monday, February 15, 1993. NO TRAINING FORMS OR FAXES will be accepted. The registration fee is \$32.00.

The Sheraton Tech Center Hotel is handicapped accessible. If there is a need for the service of an interpreter for the hearing impaired, please contact me at

Your attendance at this event is encouraged, workload permitting and with supervisory approval. If you have any questions you may contact me at or Jaci

Chairperson
Program Subcommittee

Attachments



HANDOUT 7.4

M*E*M*O*R*A*N*D*U*M

TO:

Project Manager

From:

Records Section

RE:

Printer Access for Sylvia

Sylvia is working on the Random Sampling of data in the claims system for all the United States. Her print access is via the HP network using LanManger. Printing of large spreadsheets is not now possible and attempts hang the application. Working access to a HP Laser III printer, or later, is essential. Some possible solutions involving the network, hardware and space follow. Several days of work need to be completed by March 19, 1994.

Option 1, Move Sylvia's Computer to Printer. Move Sylvia's computer to work station vacated by Sarah to access to a direct line to a printer without using a LAN. Sylvia would have to work at that site to do the needed work.

Advantage: Possible quick fix

Disadvantage: Requires moving system twice.

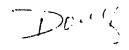
Option 2, Use of HP Laser III Printer at Sylvia's Work Area. Put a printer at Sylvia's work area and use a direct connection from computer to printer instead of using LAN for printer access.

Advantage: Quick fix

Disadvantage: Don't know of unused laser printer

Option 1 is recommended. Other options such as moving to another computer are considered to time consuming.

Need permission to move, we may also need assistance from User Support to accomplish the move and computer setup.





HANDOUT 7.5

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

State Capitol Annex 1375 Sherman Street Denver, Colorado 80261



MAY 1986

AUTOMATION COMING TO COLORADO PORTS OF ENTRY

The Port of Entry Division of the Colorado Department of Revenue is pleased to announce that we will kick off our port automation project on July 1, 1986, with the opening of our first fully automated port in Fort Collins.

We have placed a priority on automating our high volume ports by December 31, 1986. By February 1987, all Colorado ports will be automated.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Automation will cut your clearance time at Colorado ports by about 50 percent because you will no longer, need to park and physically leave your vehicle to obtain clearance. This will reduce waiting lines for everyone, including trucks with "A" decals.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

At the automated ports, the scale will be connected to a computer which will record your vehicle's weight as you drive through. You will stop in front of the port building and tell the port officer via an intercom your starting point, destination and empty vehicle weight. The port officer will also record your vehicle identification number (VIN). You will then be able to leave, unless your vehicle is overweight or some other problem arises.

You will no longer need to obtain a written clearance, although you can get one upon request.

The automated ports will improve the accuracy of your gross ton mile (GTM) tax account records on file with the Department of Revenue. Presently, information is manually entered onto your GTM account from our copies of your clearance tickets. Under the automated port system, this information will be recorded via the port computers onto your GTM account when you weigh through, which will reduce the chances of errors on your account.

This procedure will apply to all vehicles, including those with average weight factors ("A" decals).

THE BENEFITS OF PORT AUTOMATION RELY ON YOUR COOPERATION

We have met with many trucking industry representatives, who are excited about the time-saving features of port automation. From our discussions, we concluded that the system will work best if the last eight digits of the VIN are used for identification of your vehicle.

The VIN is the unique number assigned to a vehicle when it is manufactured. You can find the VIN for your vehicle on your vehicle registration and your "Mileage and Fuel Tax Permit" (cab card), as shown in-the sample on back of this page.

Vehicles that are not properly marked will have to stop at the ports to obtain written clearances, which can cause time-wasting backups and by logs. So, the extent to which you can benefit from port automation relies on whether you and your fellow truckers have properly marked vehicles.



MEMORANDUM

TO:

All Division Secretaries

FROM:

Kate Roberts, Program Chairperson

RE:

TRAINING SESSION - 10/1/93

Date:

July 1, 1993

Announcement of Training Session

All division secretaries are invited to attend a one-day training seminar on October 1, 1993. There will be twelve different training sessions covering areas of interest for all secretaries.

Meeting Information

Where:

Sheraton Denver Tech Center

4900 DTC Parkway Denver, Colorado Handicap Accessible

When:

October 1, 1993

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pre-registration at 7:30 a.m.

Action Requested

The registration forms and the \$32.00 registration fee are due in the registrar's office by Monday, August 29, 1993. Since there is a limit on the number of participants for some of the classes, early registration is recommended.

If there is a need for a hearing-impaired interpreter, please contact me at 123-4567.

Background Information

Our keynote speaker will be Judy Browning, owner of Seminars, Inc. and publisher of their quarterly newsletter. Ms. Browning was recently elected president of United Secretaries of America.

I look forward to seeing you at this exciting event.



Handout 7.7

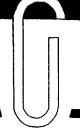
SOME COMMON HEADINGS USED IN BUSINESS DOCUMENTS*

Purpose of Meeting
Meeting Information
Action Requested
Importance of a Quick Decision
Advantages of
Disadvantages of
Recommendations
Overview
Issue Under Consideration
Implications of Study
Background
Summary

REMEMBER--YOUR CHOICE OF HEADINGS IS DETERMINED BY THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DOCUMENT



memo:



TO:

Connections Newsletter Team

FROM:

Bobbi

DATE:

July 1, 1993

SUBJECT: NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

I hope you all enjoyed seeing your efforts in print in the June issue of Connections. You all did a great job and Jean was very pleased. (I apologize for the delayed distribution. I didn't realize it would take three weeks to print!)

The newsletter will now be published bimonthly. Below is the 1993 deadline schedule.

September/October issue

August 15, 1993

November/December issue

October 15, 1993

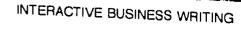
Thanks for all your hard work!



HANDOUT 7.9 Tust what the doctor ordered The Samuelian House "Back to School" Meatil Fair Saturday, August 21, 1993 Volunteer to join the

Foundation in support of this annual event. The Samaritan House is a temporary shelter for At the Fair, children living in shelters and homeless people located in lower downtown

At the rair, children living in shelters and those referred by social agencies and churches will be provided with various health screenings, those referred by social agencies and churches will be provided with various health screen: educational information and immunizations before they go back to school. Art activities, educational information and immunizations before they go back to school. Art activities, educational information and immunizations before they go back to school. Art activities, educational information and lunch will also be provided for the children and their families. To sign up to volunteer, please complete the form below and return it to Ext Name(s) of guest(s) or family member(s)—(Due to the nature of the event no children under 12 years old, please): __ Volunteer opportunities are listed below. Please check those you are interested in. There is only volunteer opportunities are listed below. Please check those you are interested in. There is only one shift for this event and that is from 8:30 a.m. -1 p.m. While the Fair itself is from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., volunteers need to arrive at Samaritan House by 8:30 a.m. to attend a half-hour orientation session and to help with preparations in specific areas from 0. 10 a.m. orientation session and to help with preparations in specific areas from 9 - 10 a.m. I am interested in volunteering for: Parking/security Medical staff assistant (does not require medical background) Clean-up Host/Hostess Registration **Balloons** Give-away booth Kitchen/Dining room





REVIEW OF THE USE OF HEADINGS COPYEDITING EXERCISE

OBJECTIVES:

- To review and reinforce the use of headings
- To provide additional copyediting practice

ACTIVITIES:

- Team jigsaw activity
- Individual copyediting exercise
- Whole group discussion

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Overhead projector
- Memos cut into sections
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Review (Jigsaw Activity): Make enough copies of Handout 8.1 so that each team will have one copy cut into sections. Instruct teams to arrange the memo in the order they agree is correct and create headings to further organize the memo.



Lesson 8

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Team Jigsaw Activity: Each team takes the sections of the memo, puts the memo back together in an order they agree upon, and creates appropriate headings.	
Whole Group Discussion: When all teams are finished, a spokesperson from each team presents their finished product to the class.	
	Copyediting Activity: Have participants complete Handout 8.2 (see Instructor's Copy).
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 8.2 (copyediting activity).	
	Using a transparency of Handout 8.2, ask the class for their responses and mark the transparency accordingly.
Whole Group Discussion: When all participants have completed the handout, they voluntarily offer their responses, which the instructor marks on the overhead transparency.	



HANDOUT 8.1

MEMORANDUM

TO:

All Employees Considering Retirement

FROM:

Will Smith, Director of Operations

DATE:

January, 1988

This memo is to remind you that you or your spouse will become eligible for the federal health insurance program, Medicare, at age 65. It also explains the effect of Medicare enrollment on health care benefits provided by Zinko Corporation.

You are not required to enroll in Medicare while you are an active employee. However, it may be to your advantage to do so. If you are enrolled in both Medicare and Zinko's health plan, the Company plan will continue to cover you while you are an active employee. The Zinko plan will pay benefits first; you can then submit expenses not covered by Zinko to Medicare for reimbursement.

If you retire at age 65 or older and are eligible for continued Zinko health coverage, you must enroll in Medicare at retirement. The Zinko retirement health plan assumes you have done this and covers only expenses not payable by Medicare.

If you are currently enrolled in a Health Maintenance Organization, you should also enroll in Medicare at age 65 if you plan to retire. Again, even if you plan to work past age 65, you may wish to enroll in Medicare as soon as you are eligible. Please check with your local personnel representative regarding HMO coverage after age 65.

The Medicare program is in two parts. Part A provides basic insurance for hospitalization, stays in skilled nursing facilities, and home health care. There is no cost to you for Part A coverage. Part B covers professional medical services, diagnostic tests, and other outpatient medical care. You pay a monthly premium for Part B coverage.



COPYEDITING ACTIVITY

In April of 1974 Ms. Carr went to the District Attorneys office here in this city and applied for NON-AFCX services and at that time the District Attorney handled all non-welfare cases. Unfortunately there was no cross-referencing between the two agencies District Attorney and Social Services. The District Attorneys office filed an Uresa petition to the State of Wyoming. The State of Wyoming ordered Mr. Carr to pay the sum of \$17.50 for the benefit of his children commencing on January 6 1975. (attached)

In 1975 Ms. Carr did reapply and receive AFDC benefits and assigned her rights to child support to the Department of Social Services. Under state law we can collect principal and interest on child support arrears up to the amount of public assistance expended. In this case the state provided \$17,116.05 in assistance for these children.

The Uresa order was modified on 2/3/85 when the oldest child turned 18 years old and this child support order terminated when the youngest child turned 18 years old on 10/24/86.

Although Mr. Carr was ordered to pay a lesser amount through the Wyoming courts this state's Juvenile order still remained in affect. The State stopped accruing a current monthly support amount when Ms. Carr discontinued receiving AFCD benefits for her children. This date was October 31, 1979.

All payments made under Wyoming's provisions have been credited under the other state's Juvenile Act.



DISCUSSION OF COPYEDITING EXERCISE ASSIGNMENT OF MIDTERM WRITING ASSESSMENT

OBJECTIVES:

- To review basic construction of sentences, fragments, and clauses
- To review basic rules of comma, semicolon, and colon usage
- To assign midterm writing assessment

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion
- Whole group editing activity

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Overhead projector
- Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Copyediting Exercise,
	Continued: Distribute Handout
	9.1 (see Instructor's copy) and
	discuss with class. As a group,
	complete the practice sentences on
	9.1, Page 2.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Activity: Participants examine and complete Handout 9.1.	Then distribute Handout 9.2 and discuss with class.
Whole Group Activity: As a class,	Give participants another copy of Handout 8.2 (copyediting activity). Again, with an overhead transparency, ask the class for their responses and mark the transparency accordingly. Responses should differ from their first copy.
participants copyedit Handout 8.2 again, but this time considering the	
information reviewed in Handout s	
9.1 and 9.2.	Midterm Writing Assessment: Distribute Handout 9.3 and discuss with class. Review the major topics that have been covered in the class so far, i.e. steps in the writing process, use of the active voice, direct language, methods of development, and graphics.
Assignment: Participants choose one question on the Midterm Assessment and bring a first draft to the next class.	



SENTENCES, FRAGMENTS, AND CLAUSES

Criteria for a Sentence

Has a subject
Has a predicate
Expresses a complete thought

Example: The employees (subject) enjoyed (predicate) the Christmas banquet. (statement expresses a complete thought)

Criteria for a fragment

Lacks a subject/predicate

Always refers to something incomplete

Example: Interviewed the candidate. (subject is missing; thought is incomplete)

Criteria for a clause

Group of words that has a subject and a predicate The following are 2 kinds of clauses:

Independent clause: Group of words that has a subject, predicate, and expresses a complete thought. (An independent clause is a simple sentence when it stands alone.)

Example: <u>The policeman blew his whistle</u> (independent clause), and <u>the traffic stopped</u>. (independent clause)

Dependent (subordinate) clause: Group of words that has a subject and predicate but the clause cannot stand alone. A dependent clause depends upon the independent clause for its meaning.

Example: The cars stopped (independent clause) when the policeman blew his whistle. (dependent clause)



Practice

Circle the independent clauses and underline the dependent (subordinate) clauses in the following sentences:

- 1. Although a new safety program has been implemented, the number of accidents continues to increase.
- 2. I don't ski because I am afraid of heights.
- 3. When the wind finally stopped, we heard the bells ringing.
- 4. We heard the bells ringing when the wind finally stopped.
- 5. He spent a lot of time with his family after he retired.
- 6. Since we finished the project, we have more leisure time.
- 7. I memorized several poems when I was in high school.
- 8. When she receives the final draft, she will call you.
- 9. We painted the furniture, and then we raked the yard.
- 10. After two weeks in the repair shop, the microwave is broken again.



HANDOUT 9.2

Commas, Semicolons, and Colons

COMMAS

Eleven rules for using commas are as follows:

- 1. **Series:** Commas are used to separate words and numbers in a series. Be sure you insert the comma before the "and" in all instances. Example: We had chicken, salad, and chocolate cake for dinner.
- 2. **Direct Quotation:** Before a direct quotation, always use a comma to separate the quotation from the person stating the remark. Remember, the period, question mark, exclamation mark, and comma are all included inside the direct quotation. Example: Frank said, "I have to leave now."
- 3. Unimportant Words: A comma is used to set off unimportant words such as of course, therefore, however, I think etc. Example: Of course, this is just my opinion.
- 4. **Dependent Clause:** Use a comma after a dependent clause at the beginning of a sentence. Example: Because of his traffic tickets, his insurance premium increased 50 percent.
- 5. Independent Clause: When independent sentences are joined with a conjunction, the comma is placed before the conjunction. Example: The car gets excellent gas mileage, and it's in the right price range.
- 6. Dates and Places: Always use a comma to separate dates, cities, states, and countries. Example: She moved to 123 Main Street, Peoria, Illinois.
- 7. Introductory Words: Introductory words are separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma. Pronouns often follow introductory words. Example: Incidentally, she forgot the present.
- 8. Parenthetical: When a clause is used in a sentence and the thought is not important to the structure of the sentence, it is set off by commas. Example: My friend, a very gifted photographer, is traveling to Europe.



HANDOUT 9.2, Page 2

- 9. **Appositive:** Commas are used to set off an appositive in the sentence or at the end of the sentence. An appositive explains and/or identifies a noun it is near. Example: John, the gentleman seated next to you, is my neighbor.
- 10. **Direct Address:** Commas are used to set off a direct address. A direct address is when you are talking to someone and use his/her name or title. Example: Jean, did you hear about the party?
- 11. **Restrictive and Nonrestrictive Clauses:** Restrictive clauses are necessary for the sentence and require no commas. Example: He spoke to the woman who was giving the lecture. Nonrestrictive clauses are <u>not</u> necessary for the meaning of the sentence and require commas. Example: Mr. Jones, who is a former pilot, grows beautiful orchids.

SEMICOLONS

- 1. **Independent Coordinate Clauses:** Semicolons are used to separate independent coordinate clauses closely connected in meaning when <u>no</u> coordinating conjunction is used. Example: The secretarial staff meets on Monday; the operations staff meets on Friday.
- 2. Coordinate Clauses joined by Transitional Words: Semicolons are used between coordinate clauses of a compound sentence when they are joined by transitional words and phrases. Example: I want to go to the concert; however, I have no money.
- 3. Coordinating Conjunction between Two Independent Clauses: Semicolons are used before a coordinating conjunction (and, but, or, for, or, nor) between two independent clauses when either one or both have internal punctuation. Example: She ordered new carpet, drapes, and cupboards for the new house; but her order was lost.
- 4. Introductory Words or List in a Sentence: Semicolons are used before such words as for example, for instance, that is, namely, etc. that introduce an example, enumeration, or list in a sentence. Example: Many of our employee benefits will change this year; for example, the length of maternity leave will be extended.



HANDOUT 9.2, Page 3

5. List Where Commas Are Insufficient: Semicolons are used in lists where a comma is insufficient to separate items clearly. Example: Guests at the open house were Mrs. Jones, the past president of the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Allen, the current president of the Chamber of Commerce; and Ms. White, the founder of Preserve Our Heritage Foundation.

COLONS

- 1. **List of Items or Details:** Colons are used before a list of items or details. Example: The following items are needed for the auction: chairs, programs, microphone, and lectern.
- 2. **Before an Appositive Phrase or Clause:** Colons are used before an appositive phrase or clause. Example: Our company's motto is: The customer always comes first.
- 3. After the Salutation of a Business Letter: Colons are used after the salutation of a business letter. Example: Dear Mr. Jones:



HANDOUT 9.3

MIDTERM WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Select one of the following topics for your midterm assignment. When you submit your final draft, be sure to attach all the stages of your writing, i.e. prewriting notes and first draft.		
1.	Describe in narrative form a procedure you routinely perform in your job. Provide sufficient detail so another employee could perform the procedure from your instructions.	
2.	Write a letter of proposal to management, describing a new approach(s) to an agency dilemma. Be sure to describe the problem and how your proposal would address those concerns.	
3.	After a year of thoroughly researching your idea for a new business, you are ready to apply for a loan. Write a letter to the Small Business Association (SBA), asking for an initial loan of \$ to start your business.	



PEER EDITING OF MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide participants with a writing workshop experience
- To provide additional peer editing practice

ACTIVITIES:

- Paired activity (peer editing)
- Mini-conferences with instructor

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

• N/A

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Partner Activity: With an assigned editing partner, participants take turns editing each other's first draft of the midterm assignment.	Review: Briefly review the levels of edit and the PQP editing model.



INDIVIDUAL WRITING CONFERENCES OF MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT PRINCIPLES OF WORDING AND PHRASING

OBJECTIVES:

- To give participants individual feedback (modeling the **PQP** editing technique) regarding their midterm assignment
- To practice the principles of wording and phrasing

ACTIVITIES:

- Individual writing conferences with the instructor
- Individual writing activities

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

Handouts

TIME: 90 minutes

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Individual Writing Conferences: Modeling the PQP method, each participant conferences with the instructor regarding the midterm assignment.



Lesson 11

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	While these conferences are taking place, the other participants work on Handouts 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3 (see Instructor's Copies)
Individual Activities: Participants individually conference with the instructor.	
While other participants are conferencing, participants complete Handouts 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3.	
Assignment: Bring in copies of complaints received at worksite.	



HANDOUT 11.1

COPYEDITING TEST

To:

All Employees

From:

Charles Jolley, Manger of Corporate Relations

Date:

December 15, 1992

I want to personally thank all of you who participated in the recent Annual Giving Campaign. Because of your generosity our company raised nearly \$27,000. While our contributions will go a long way towards helping dozens of organizations and thousands of people in need in the Denver metro area on a comparative basis we reached only 72 percent of our goal.

As the Mile High Annual Giving Campaign chairperson, I've worked with a volunteer team to promote increased giving among Denver's corporate community. As a result I feel a deep personal commitment to this years campaign and hope our company can play a leading role.

The campaign was conducted in a relatively short timeframe and was more low key than in past years. As a result some of you have told me you did not have the opportunity to contribute this year. If you would like to support this campaign there's still time. Just complete the attached pledge form fold and staple it and return through the interoffice mail by the end of this month.

Again thank you for your generosity.



HANDOUT 11.2

REDUNDANCIES

Eliminate redundancies, make appropriate word choices, and then rewrite the following sentences.

- 1. At this point in time, it is our first and foremost objective to assess the fiscal implications of foreign imports.
- 2. Whether or not you meet your weight loss goals and objectives depends upon the final outcome you have established for yourself.
- 3. The current status of the overall plan indicates a new breakthrough in turnkey technology.
- 4. In his personal opinion, the basic and fundamental problem with education is that teachers don't make the welfare of our children their first priority.
- 5. After they rendered a detailed examination of the spacecraft, the scientists made the recommendation to extensively restructure the space program.
- 6. In compliance with your request, please find enclosed a copy of your new insurance policy.
- 7. Input your social security number to receive assistance in completing your application form.
- 8. I would like to make a recommendation that we initiate a contract with Zinko Incorporated and terminate our contracts with other vendors.
- 9. The client's past medical history is confidential.
- 10. The secretary sent a duplicate copy of the tuition fees to the chairman of the committee.



DIFFICULT DUOS

In the following sentences, circle the correct responses.

- 1. The (affects, effects) of the drug on the nervous system are unknown.
- 2. All customer service representatives are instructed to answer the phone, "(May, Can) I help you?"
- 3. Chicago is (farther, further) from Denver than Omaha.
- 4. I have (fewer, less) books than my sister.
- 5. The gift shop received a large shipment of floral (stationary, stationery).
- 6. (Irregardless, Regardless) of his excellent credit history, he was denied a mortgage loan.
- 7. The size of an engine (affects, effects) gas mileage.
- 8. I (implied, inferred) from her comments that she didn't like the performance.



Lesson 11

HANDOUT 11.3, Page 2

- 9. (Whether, Whether or not) you are successful in school depends on your degree of commitment.
- 10. He likes houses (that, which) have basements.
- 11. Gala apples are (different from, different than) delicious apples.
- 12. Her letter (implied, inferred) that a reorganization was imminent.
- 13. He is ill (due to, because of) stress.
- 14. The blouse and skirt (complement, compliment) one another perfectly.
- 15. Skiing well requires (continual, continuous) practice.



PRINCIPLES OF WORDING AND PHRASING

OBJECTIVES:

- To introduce, discuss, and practice the principles of wording and phrasing
- To provide further copyediting practice

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion
- Individual activities

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Handouts--Use Handouts from Lesson 11
- Overhead projector

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion: Participants discuss their responses to Handout 11.1.	REVIEW: To reinforce copyediting concerns demonstrated in the midterm assignment, discuss Handout 11.1.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion:	PRINCIPLES OF WORDING AND PHRASING: To write effectively in business avoid unnecessary words, redundancies, and lofty words.
Participants offer responses to Handouts 11.2 and 11.3.	
Handouts 11.2 and 11.3.	
	Before discussing Handouts 11.2 and 11.3, provide several examples on the board or overhead projector. Then discuss responses for the handouts with the entire class.



PRINCIPLES OF TONE

OBJECTIVE:

- To introduce, discuss, and practice using principles of tone
- To apply principles of tone to complaint letters
- To introduce, discuss, and practice problem solving strategies in addressing complaint letters

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion
- Team activity

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

- Handouts
- Sample letters of complaint

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
ACTIVITES	Note: Finish discussing Handouts 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3 if necessary. PRINCIPLES OF TONE: In business writing a positive, conversational tone with an intent to express rather than impress is important.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion:	Have participants share examples of negative, inappropriately formal, and pompous correspondence.
Participants share examples of negative tone, inappropriate	
formality, and pompous	Complaints (Overview):
correspondence.	Complaints are a common occurrence in any business. Often a problem underlies a complaint. In responding to complaints, a problemsolving approach is very effective.
Whole Group Activity: Participants examine Handout 13.1	Using complaint samples given to the instructor by the participants in this course (see Handouts 13.2 , 13.3, and 13.4), participants will apply problem-solving strategies in drafting their responses. Handout 13.1
	Practice with Complaints: Using complaints from the worksite, divide participants into teams. Using Handout 13.1 as a guide, have participants analyze the complaint.
Team Activity: In teams of 3 or 4, participants evaluate complaints, using Handout 13.1.	



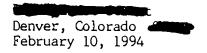
STEPS FOR EFFECTIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

- Identifying the problem
- Analyzing the problem
- Generating potential solutions
- Selecting and planning a solution
- Presenting the solution, e.g. written response

If appropriate for the situation,

• Implementing and evaluating the solution





Honorable Roy Romer Governor, State of Colorado Colorado State Capital Building Denver, Colorado 80202

RE; Family Support Registry

Dear Governor Romer:

In January, I received a notice that the child support system had been turned over to the Family Support Registry, which was created to more efficiently process support payments.

I find this system to be inadequate and an obstacle to what was prior to its creation a smooth running system. I was divorced in 1979 and not until 1990 did I receive child support payments. Between 1990 and the time that my account was turned over to this system, the money arrived within a few days of the first of the month. The money received on a monthly basis was \$300.00.

In April, I received a form which was diligently completed and returned requesting that full back payment in excess of \$40,000.00 be entered. I have contacted the Department on repeated occasions and have <u>never</u> received a telephone contact back as promised.

It is now February 10, 1994. I have contacted assigned worker, and supervisor, Both have failed to contact me as promised with information. Initially when I attempted to reach them I ot the runaround. If you contact 72 and not leave a message. It states that you should contact 72 and not leave a message. This is extreme double talk. It is a clear indication that the right hand does not know what the left hand is doing.

This situation does not need to be complicated and it was not so until my account was sent to the Family Support Registry.

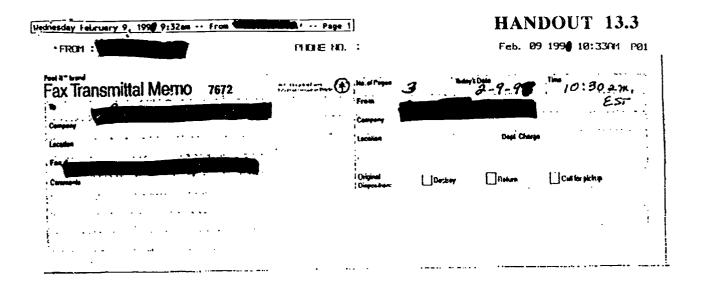
I do expect a response from your office in an appropriate time frame.

Cordially



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

Lesson 13



2/9/9

Human Services Section

_ Colorado 80223

Attn:

Customer Service Representative

Re:

Court Case No.

Dear Ms

In a recent State of the Union speech, President Clinton expressed his concern about catching up with deadbeat dads. My financially secure ex-husband has owed child support arrearage for eleven (11) years. Despite an aggressive effort both on my part and 's Child Support Division, to collect this from Colorado, which included correspondence to Governor Romer of Colorado seven (7) months ago, I have not received even a dollar.

Is there a problem with the Colorado bureaucracy or the techniques involved in collections that has drawn this out so long? The colorado residence and place of employment are known; a judgement issued many years ago has not been enforced; false credits have been applied against the arrearage; court trials have not addressed the problem in it's entirety; and there has been a lack of follow-through. In these eleven (11) years, I have had to continually renew my request.

A September 2, 1993 deadline for response was issued by but was not met: However, in January 1994, I received a copy of a response dated September 14, 1993. The original was never received. Nor did Mr. of the County Child Support in receive his original.

In the course of delays, credits have been applied against the arrearage for items such as deduction for visitation rights not written in the Decree of Divorce and a deduction for a payment on a Visa bill which was never made, nor would it apply to child support even if it had been substantiated.



Lesson 13

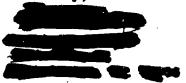
HANDOUT 13.3,

Page 2

Wednesday February 9, 199 9:32am -- From: " -- Page 1b

All of the legal capability is there. Why am I still waiting?

Sincerely,



cc: President Bill Clinton Governor Roy Romer

File

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

HANDOUT 13.4,

Page 1

Cear Mr.

a maller that and/ or when we just recieved papers on an issue of paternety do the regarding support for vorthery

sugarding support for Brithney we came in agreed to Bood tester, my husband called your office and got a machine, which the always seem to get, he left a message to re-schedule the test because he could not get of work, but no call wet which a call or live any susponse on the maller, he kept trying to reach someone on this matter und was never tespended to.

The next thing we received was papers from court with an order for support of then diduction from pay. Our.

HANDOUT 13.4,

Page 2

letter on Gune 9, 1993 to establish contact for arrangements for a coload yest or ask for a stry of Execution until paternety + duty was conclusivley istablished as of Feb 1994 we've cheard enothing but please for a response has deen completely & intentionally ignored and I have decided To persue this matter in far as possible. My husband was treated unjustily + he had no problem complying except he does not believe he is the father and being a friend of this childs mather know of Her dating a man both by one , after hours a are fine "Esting" with nux chusband. Chank you for your Yune regarding this matter and I would appreciate a vesponse from you before I move an

PRINCIPLES OF TONE, CONCLUSION

OBJECTIVES:

- To practice applying principles of problem solving to writing business correspondence
- To provide practice in evaluating and writing complaints, as related to principles of tone

ACTIVITIES:

- Team activities
- Whole group discussion

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

Sample Complaints

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Team Activity: Teams present their problem-solving analyses of their complaint.	Writing Activity: After teams have presented their problem-solving analyses of their complaint, discuss how (in terms of tone), the complaint could be more effectively written. Teams then work together to write a first draft of the complaint revision.



Lesson 14

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES	
Team Activity: Teams write a first draft of a revision of the complaint they analyzed.		
Whole Group Discussion: When finished, each team presents the first draft to the whole class. The revision is critiqued according to tone and problem-solving strategies.		



PRINCIPLES OF PERSUASIVE WRITING--THE RESUME

OBJECTIVES:

- To apply principles of persuasive writing to resume writing
- To review and practice the principles of audience and purpose
- To provide additional practice in interactive writing

ACTIVITIES

- Mini-lecture
- Group discussion
- Individual activity
- Handouts

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

- 3" X 5" ruled index cards; 12 per employee
- Overhead transparencies of resume samples
- Handouts

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Principles of Persuasion Resume Writing (Note: Because no one in this group of employees needed the usual forms of persuasive writing, i.e. sales letters, collection letter etc., resume writing was used as an exercise in selling oneself.)



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Activity: Participants examine Handout 15.1 with instructor.	Rationale for Resume Writing (see Handout 15.1)
	Mini-Lecture/Presentation: Different Kinds of Resumes: Using the overhead projector,
Whole Group Discussion: After	present 3 examples of resumes. Have
viewing 3 examples of resumes, each participant decides which one is best	the class determine which is the best one and explain their decisions.
and offers his/her reasons.	From this discussion, make a list of criteria for an effective resume.
From this discussion, the class makes	
a list of criteria for an effective resume.	Most Common Formats for Resumes
Whole Group Lesson: Each participant receives examples of the 3	Display the following samples of formats on an overhead projector, noting distinguishing features for each format. (See Handouts 15.2, 15.3, and 15.4).
basic resume formats (Handouts	
15.2, 15.3, and 15.4).	1. Chronological: Work experience is listed in order; used to highlight a stable, consistent work record.
	2. Functional: Experience is organized by skill areas/categories; used to emphasize skills and minimize a varied or broken work record.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Lesson: Participants review Handout 15.5 with instructor.	3. Combined: Skill areas are highlighted within the work history; combines the best features of the chronological and functional formats. Creating a Resume 1. Use action verbssee Handout 15.5 2. Show results of your actions. In resume writing, it's important to not only use action verbs, but also document results of those actions whenever possible. For example, instead of just stating "increased productivity," state "increased productivity by 40%."
Individual Activity: Participants complete Handout 15.6 and discuss responses as a whole group.	To practice using action verbs and providing proof of those actions by example, have the participants complete Handout 15.6 (see Instructor's copy).



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Individual Activity: Participants are given a packet of 12 - 3" X 5" ruled index cards to begin compiling information in the main categories (work experience, education, special skills, and major accomplishments).	3. Use your work experience, education, special skills, and major accomplishments as the main categories to begin structuring a resume. In preparation for writing a resume for his/her partner, give each participant a dozen 3" X 5" ruled index card to list information for each of these main categories.
Assignment for Next Class: Complete index cards	



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING FINAL PROJECT

RATIONALE

The final project for "Interactive Business Writing" is writing a resume for your partner.

Resume writing incorporates the major topics that have been introduced, discussed, and practiced in this course. These topics include

- Identifying and defining purpose and audience.
- Mastering the steps in the writing process, i.e. planning, drafting, and revising.
- Applying principles of organization and formatting to produce and enhance business writing.
- Learning to effectively use the active voice, direct language, and positive phrasing.
- Working collaboratively to benefit from the knowledge, skills, and perspectives of other employees.

Things to Consider When Talking to Your Partner:

- 1. Does your partner state his/her accomplishments (and results) using positive, active language?
- 2. After reviewing and discussing your partner's work experience and goals, education, and special skills, determine the appropriate resume format, i.e. chronological, functional, or combined.
- 3. Remember a resume is an advertisement of your partner's accomplishments and skills. Think of any other information you may need from your partner (special skills, professional affiliations, relevant community projects).



JOHN P. DOE

HANDOUT 15.2

Ave	nue Littleton, CO 80589	(303) 544
OBJECTIVE	Entry-level position with potential growth toward ma responsibilities in marketing and/or sales	nagement
EDUCATION	UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT DENVER Denvelopments. Business Administration, May 1992, GPA 3.4/Financed 75% of education	ver, Colorado /4.0
HONORS	Dean's List - 2 semesters	
WORK HISTORY 9/91 - Present	SUN OIL COMPANY, INC. Inventory Analyst/Cash Manager Inter: Reconciled inventory for 15 pipelines carrying up per month Contributed to an 85% decrease in product loss of	
6/89 - 5/91	 K & S MANFACTURING Sales Representative Promoted after first summer from Manufacturing Representative Successfully marketed products to major catalog of L.L.Bean and Eddie Bauer Developed sales campaign and increased the cust of company products by 20% 	distributors including
6/85 - 6/89	 J. R. CRESTHEAD, INC. Assistant Office Manager Directed work of 8 employees Managed computer order entry system Coordinated placement of J.R. Cresthead, Inc. p External Retail Trade Organization (JERTO) in 	roducts on Japanese ternational trade circuit
SPECIAL SKILLS	Fluent in spanish Working knowledge of IBM and MAC versions of	f WordPerfect and I otus
REFERENCES	S Available upon request.	



FUNCTIONAL

HANDOUT 15.3

NAME

Phone #

OBJECTIVE

Position in Food Proceeding Industry which offers potential for Production Operations management.

EDUCATION

B.S. Buainese Administration

1992

University of Colorado at Denver

- · Concentration: Production Operations Management
- GPA: 3.9/4.0
- Honors: Golden Key National Honor Society; Dean's List 1991

120 Credit Houre

1984 - 1987

Colorado State University
• Major: Fuod Technology

· Concent. 'ion: Chemistry and Microbiology of foods

EXPERIENCE

MANAGEMENT

- · Supervised 15-20 employees in high-volume restaurant and institutional food service
- · Hired and trained employees in all aspects of restaurant business
- · Determined weekly work shifts and daily work force adjustments
- . Managed cash fund with cash flow of \$6,000-\$8,000 daily
- · Controlled daily cash accounting

PLANNING

- · Planned and directed innovative marketing strategy
 - increased weekly profit by 100% in first month of campaign
- Determined inventory levels and placed vendor orders
- · Controlled inventory to meet weekly menti plans

COMMUNICATIONS

- · Evaluated and documented employee performance for wage administration
- · Formulated and presented marketing concepts to potential customers
 - increased customer base by approximately 50 per month
- · Initiated weekly employee idea night designed to improve operations and increase morale
 - modified several operations that increased efficiency
 - average employee tenure increased from 6 months to 9.6 months in first year
- . Evaluated and resolved customer complaints

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Hession Corporation, Aurora, Colorado Warehouse Assistant

1988 - 1991

Partico Corporation, Aurora, Colorado Manager

1987 - 1988

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado Manager

1984 - 1987

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Member, American Production and Inventory Control Society Independent study in Operations Research Member, Institute of Food Technologists INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

84



Barbara James 123 Perry Road Rockford, Illinois 61234 (815) 123-4567

OBJECTIVE

Hospital and medical sales requiring extensive experience with medical equipment, excellent communication skills, and strong motivation.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successfully conducted interpersonal skills training seminars for nearly 250 supervisory personnel.
- Developed reputation for simultaneously coordinating numerous major projects.
- Obtained highest performance rating for 5 years.
- Adept at problem resolution and public relations. Regularly represent hospital at major civic gatherings.
- Experienced in the development of management systems, including the administration of a \$5.1 million budget.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1982 - 1991:

Deputy Assistant to the Director, Prouty

Memorial Hospital, Gilly, Illinois.

1973 - 1982:

Administrator to the Chief of Medical Administration, Rockford, Illinois.

1971 - 1973:

Sales representative for NuLife health products,

Chicago, Illinois.

EDUCATION

B.A., Administrative Management Northern Illinois College, Gilly, Illinois

Additional coursework at University of Carbondale in Group Dynamics, Management, and Psychology.

SPECIAL SKILLS

Bilingual (English/Spanish)



THE ACTION VERBS

accelerate accomplish account achieve acquire adapted address administer advise allocate analyze answer apply appraise approve arbitrate arrange assemble assign assist attain audit author balance budget built calculate catalogue categorize chart chair clarify classify coach code collaborate collect communicate compile complete compose compound compute conceive conduct confirm conserve consolidate construct consult contact contract contribute control convince coordinale CODY correspond

decide define delegate deliver demonstrate demystify design detect determine develop devise diagnose direct discover distribute direct draft edit effect elaborate eliminate enable encourage engineer enlarge enlist establish estimate evaluate examine execute expand expedite explain extract fabricate facilitate file forecast tormulate founded gather generate group guide handle harmonize help identily illustrate Implement Improve increase influence inform initiate Inspect

install

institute

instruct

interact

interpret interview introduce invent invest investigate judge landed launch lead lecture locate log maintain manage manipulate manufacture market measure mediate memorize modify monitor motivate moderated negotiate cbtain offer operate order organize originate outline overhaul oversee participate perform persuade pinpoint plan orepare prescribe present print priorilize process produce program project promote propose protect prove provide publicize realize receive recommend reduce refer regulate reinforce relate remodel reorganize repair represent research reshape respond restore retrieve revamp review revise revitalize route schedule search select sell serve set goals set up simplify soive spearhead speculate speak sponsor stimulate strategize streamline strengthen structure study summarize supervise supply support survey synthesize systematize teach test train translate troubleshoot tutor unite update upgrade utilize vault verify volunteer write



counsel

create

critique

reconcile

record

recruit

RESUME WRITING EXERCISE

In resume writing it's important to not only list your skills and personal characteristics but also to quantify them for your reader.

Instead of

<u>State</u>

typing

typing 65 wpm

data entry

data entry at 12,000

keystrokes per minute

computer literate

Advanced WP 5.1 and

Lotus 1.2.3.

Revise the following terms so they will be more useful to a reader.

SKILLS

Instead of

State

file clerk

cashier

deliver mail

accounting skills

bilingual

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

organized take-charge person supervisory skills conscientious competent



ASSIGNING AND INTERVIEWING RESUME PARTNERS

OBJECTIVES:

- To practice working collaboratively with a partner to benefit from the knowledge, skills, and perspective of another employee
- To practice using major headings to create a resume

ACTIVITIES:

• Workshop -- partner activity

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

Additional 3" X 5" ruled index cards

g Resume Partners: For
e project, participants write artner's resume. This each participant with the e of creating a resume and from the objective e of a potential employer partner).



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	In assigning partners, avoid pairing participants that work in the same department or area or who are close friends.
Partner Activity: With their assigned partners, participants interview each other, using the index cards they have prepared. Participants may use the questions on Handout 15.1 to guide this activity.	
	During this workshop, briefly visit with each pair and facilitate if necessary.
Assignment: Participants write a rough draft of their partner's resume for next class.	



PEER EDITING OF RESUMES--ROUGH DRAFT

OBJECTIVES:

- To review principles of peer editing
- To review principles of resume writing

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion/review of the resume and editing processes.
- Workshop -- Peer editing of rough draft

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Handout

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
	Review of Peer Editing and Resume Principles: Review Handouts 5.2 (Levels of Edit), Handout 6.1 (Editing Techniques), and Handout 17.1 (Points to Remember When Writing and Editing a Resume).



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion: Review of levels of edit, editing techniques, and resume writing principles.	
Partner Activity: With their partners, participants edit their rough drafts, using the questions on Handout 17.1 as a guide.	
Assignment: Final draft of resumes are due at the next class.	



Points to Remember When Writing and Editing a Resume

Given the purpose of the resume, have I selected the proper format?

As we have previously discussed, there are three basic resume formats, i.e. functional, chronological, and combined (review your samples). The <u>purpose</u> of the resume determines which format is used.

CHRONOLOGICAL: Jobs are listed in order, starting with the most recent and working backwards. This format is used to highlight a stable, progressive employment history. This is the most common format and the easiest to prepare.

FUNCTIONAL: Experience is organized by skill areas/categories. Use categories appropriate to your job objective and list skills in each category from any work experiences. This format is used when making a career change, entering the job market, or deemphasizing your employment history.

COMBINED: Skill areas are highlighted within the work history. This format is becoming more popular because it combines the best features of the chronological and functional formats.

Have I used the active voice and strong verbs?

INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

Have I demonstrated proof for my statements (when possible)?

Have I used effective formatting techniques (bolding, bulleting, proper font size) to increase the visual appeal of the document?



PRINCIPLES OF PERSUASION--COVER LETTERS

OBJECTIVES:

- * To reinforce principles of persuasive writing
- To provide additional practice in collaborative writing

ACTIVITIES:

- Whole group discussion
- Team writing activities

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

- Overhead transparencies
- Handouts
- Newspaper ads

ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Whole Group Discussion: Participants discuss or ask questions regarding Handout 18.1.	Cover Letters: Distribute Handout 18.1 and read together. Answer any questions. From this discussion, make a list of the criteria of a good cover letter.



ACTIVITIES	INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES
Team Activity: Participants determine if sample cover letters (Handouts 18.2-18.5) meet the criteria they have established for cover letters. Team Activity: As a team, participants complete prewriting strategies in response to the want ad they selected and begin their first drafts. (Although they are working on teams, for this exercise each team member will write a letter.)	Distribute Handouts 18.2-18.5. In teams, have participants decide how each cover letter sample meets or doesn't meet their criteria for cover letters. Writing Activity: From recent newspapers, participants select want ads from the employment section for their team. Before they start writing, review prewriting strategies, audience, purpose, and tone.
Assignment: Rough drafts of cover letters are due at the beginning of the next class.	



COVER LETTERS

A cover letter is a form of sales letter. You are marketing your skills, abilities, knowledge, and experience to a potential employer. The goal of a cover letter is to get the attention of the person who initially screens job applicants.

A cover letter accompanies your resume and allows you to highlight specific abilities that may or may not be on your resume. This personalized aspect of a cover letter is one of its major strengths and creates a custom, personalized document to accompany your resume.

Because a cover letter is a form of persuasive writing, it has a particular tone and style. When writing your cover letter, remember to develop and maintain a positive, enthusiastic tone using a professional yet friendly style. A cover letter provides you with the opportunity to show a company what you know about them and most importantly, what skills, abilities, experience, and knowledge you can offer them to meet their needs.

As we have previously discussed in this course, principles of effective formatting must be considered when writing business letters. Bulleted statements and vertical lists are especially effective (see Handouts 18.3 & 18.5) in cover letters. Remember also to use fonts which allow easy reading of your document.

In addition to the points in the above discussion, remember the following guidelines when writing a cover letter:

- The recommended length is approximately one page.
- If possible, address the letter to a <u>person</u> instead of "To Whom It Concern."
- Allow for follow-through. State when (and possibly how) you will contact them in the future.



February 24, 1991

Director of Human Resources Gilding Enterprises, Inc. P.O. Box 1236 Ogalala, NE 67123

To the Human Resources Director.

Due to my extensive warehouse/distribution experience, I am applying for your parts coordinator position in Denver.

For 16 years I was employed by Reeling International. After the plant's closing, I worked for Bond Paper Company while seeking a more challenging and responsible warehouse position. In April 1990, I was hired by Crunchy Snacks International; however, due to declining sales, I was recently laid-off.

As the attached resume details, I have been responsible for a variety of positions in a warehouse/distribution setting. My background in inventory control, purchasing, shipping, receiving, and warehouse operations has given me the experience that would benefit your company.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

(Your name) 123 Elk Street Denver, CO 80001 (303) 123-4567



April 12, 1994

Lori Maguendo
Project Manager
National Association of Conservationists
1000 23rd Street
Denver, CO 80001

Dear Ms. Maguendo:

I understand that you are currently seeking researchers in the area of energy conservation. Based on my knowledge of the work done by your agency, I believe my qualifications are well-suited to your needs.

I can offer your agency the following specific skills:

Writing: Critical, focused writing style used successfully as an environmental researcher for 12 years.

Research: Completed several research projects focusing on energy conservation.

Organizational Skills: Effectively worked as an individual and team member to meet project deadlines.

Education: B.S. in Biology; M.S. in Environmental Science.

I would consider it a privilege and challenge to join your staff. I look forward to discussing my potential contributions to your organization with you, at your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alice Roberts



April 12, 1994

ABC Corporation ATTN: Hank Lewis 789 Clark Lane Denver, CO 80001

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Enclosed is my resume that highlights my background in accounting.

I would like to discuss my career objectives with you and how I could make a significant contribution to your company.

Please contact me at (303) 123-4567.

Sincerely,

(Your name)



April 11, 1994

The Denver Gazette 123 California **ATTN: Gloria Smith** Denver, CO 80101

Dear Ms. Smith:

I am responding to your advertisement for a Sales Representative in "The Denver Gazette" on April 10, 1994. The following comparison clearly shows how my experience and background match the requirements your company is seeking.

Your Requirements Five to seven years

experience.

My Qualifications

Six years sales experience. Set sales new company standards for sales quotas. Supervised a staff of

five.

Strong communication skills

Developed and presented training seminars. Prepared sales literature and coordinated mailings to 1,000

clients.

Computer literate

Purchased appropriate sales software, resulting in increased turnaround times. Expanded DOS capabilities to more

efficiently manage files.

I would like to discuss this position with you in greater detail. I will call you next week to see when we can meet.

Sincerely,

Julie M. Markus



INSTRUCTOR'S COPIES



HANDOUT 1.1

INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING WRITING SAMPLE (PRETEST)

- 1. Today you found out that you have a new boss! Not only do you have a new boss, but your new boss wants a written account of your job responsibilities. On another sheet of paper, write a letter of introduction to your new boss and provide the information she has requested.
- 2. Edit the following paragraph. Look for errors in capitalization, spelling, and grammar.

This report focuses on the preparation of resumes and what personnel managers like included in them. Much research was done and several sources were used to find out what personnel administrators look for in a resume. Information was obtained from questionnaires, interviews, and secondary sources such as books and periodicals. This report will not discuss what is presently being taught in classrooms or placement offices about the preparation of resumes.

In the past students in colleges and universities have been taught several different ways to prepare a resume. However, they are still unsure whether to include certain items on their resume because they don't know if the prospective employer "likes it that way."



HANDOUT 2.1

OVERVIEW OF THE WRITING PROCESS

PLAN

Determine Purpose--Refer to Handout 2.2

Determine Audience--Refer to Handout 2.2

Use prewriting strategies (free-writing, brainstorming, clustering, incubating, drawing). Refer to Handout 2.3

Organize information (outlining, creating headlines). Refer to **Handout 2.4**

DRAFT

Write first draft

REVISE

Revise document (developmental edit)-- Look at the whole document. Does it make sense?

Edit document (copyedit)-- Look at individual sentences to see if they're grammatically correct. Also look for punctuation and spelling errors.

Write second or final draft-- If necessary, repeat any of the previous steps to successfully revise the document.



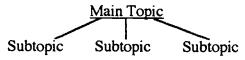
HANDOUT 2.3

PREWRITING STRATEGIES

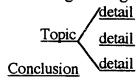
Freewriting -- Uncensored, private writing. An effective strategy to make the transition into the writing mode. In freewriting it's important <u>not</u> to worry about grammar or content. **Anything** is correct.

Brainstorming -- Another form of uncensored writing. In brainstorming whatever thoughts regarding a topic are written down. This may be done individually or as a group. Later these thoughts are further organized.

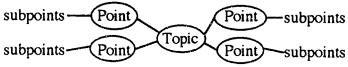
Treeing -- A graphic method of organizing the results of a brainstorming session.



TDC -- Another graphic method of organizing information.



Clustering -- A graphic form of a freewriting approach. Also called "mind mapping."



Incubating -- Thinking about what you are going to write. Although this method may appear unproductive, for some people it works.

Outlining (Fo. val or Informal) See Handout 2.4

Drawing -- Doodling. For some people, this is a form of freewriting.



HANDOUT 3.1

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

In the following sentences if the sentence is in the passive voice, rewrite it in the active voice and vice versa. ANSWERS WILL VARY.

- 1. The contract was broken by the agency.
 The agency broke the contract.
- It was found that all claims were being suspended due to a computer error.The computer suspended all claims in error.
- 3. John presented the new product line to all three companies.

 The new product line was presented to all three companies by John.
- 4. It was requested by the member that his policy be terminated. The member requested to terminate his policy.
- Payroll mailed the checks last week.
 The checks were mailed by payroll last week.
- 6. The media asked the new director many personal questions.

 The new director was asked many personal questions by the media.
- 7. The new guidelines are being printed by reprographics. Reprographics printed the new guidelines.
- 8. In 1983 the America's Cup races were won by Australia. Australia won the America's Cup races in 1983.
- Mark Twain wrote many important novels.
 Many important novels were written by Mark Twain.
- 10. The financial statement was faxed to the manager.

 The accountant faxed the financial statement to the manager.



HANDOUT 3.2

REVISION EXERCISE

Make the following paragraphs more effective by eliminating the passive voice and unnecessary words.

1. It has been requested that a supply list for our department be developed to save secretaries time in ordering supplies. It has also been requested that we obtain a special cost center number for each department to use when they order their supplies.

I suggest we create a supply list for our department and a special cost center number to save time and insure accuracy in ordering our supplies.

2. At this point in time, it is necessary for the healthcare industry to reexamine their basic and fundamental concepts and the way they are perceived by the public.

The healthcare industry must now reexamine their fundamental concepts and public image.

3. There has been no significant change regarding this issue since my first original report of May 15. As the report states, it was decided by the new board members to tentatively drop the retiree luncheon due to lack of funds.

As stated in my report of May 15, the new board members decided to tentatively drop the retiree luncheon due to lack of funds.



HANDOUT 4.1

EXERCISES IN PARALLELISM

Finish the series in the following sentences so all items are parallel. Answers will vary.

- 1. On her vacation she visited museums, talked to relatives, and dined at expensive restaurants.
- 2. The new computer is fast, efficient, and quiet.
- 3. She carefully, slowly, and silently picked up the evidence and placed it in an envelope.
- 4. The busy toddler kicked the ball, screamed at the cat, and terrorized his sister before finally falling asleep.
- 5. The sun shines, the moon glows, and the stars twinkle.

Rewrite the following vertical lists so that all items are parallel.

1. Demonstrated ability to

Organize

Supervise

Communicate

Attend to detail

3. In order to process your application, we need the following information:

College transcript-- unofficial

copy

Birth Certificate--copy

Social Security Card--copy

Letters of recommendation

-- Three from past

employers

2. Activities include

Skiing

Bowling

Fishing

Hiking

4. Major points to consider in purchasing a home include:

Location?

Personal appeal?

Price?

School district?



HANDOUT 5.1

EDITING PRETEST

Note: Responses will vary according to the texts/style guides consulted.

February 10, 1994

ABC Corporation Attn: Elsie Fogg 123 Princeton Drive Denver, CO 80000

RE: Your Own Corporate Newsletter

Dear Ms. Fogg:

Attractive, well-written newsletters are a recognized and effective way to communicate with employees. Your Company's Best is published quarterly in a four-color, four-page format. This publication offers timely articles on employee wellness programs, consumer buying tips, and retirement options. And you can add your own articles, allowing you to create a newsletter that truly becomes your own.

There are several reasons why Your Company's Best can provide your company with the customized newsletter you've been looking for.

- You can offer employees lively, timely topics.
- You can stretch your staff time. Your staff can focus on other important projects because we produce the newsletter for you.
- You get exclusivity in your market. You won't see other competitors using these newsletters in your local market.
- You get extra value for the dollars you invest. You get full color impact at twocolor prices with our volume printing discounts.

I look forward to talking with you soon about this exciting newsletter product.

Sincerely,

Sally Sue Ship Account Representative



4 MOST COMMON METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT (M.O.D.)

Note: If you would like more information on methods of development, consult a business writing text.

1. Order of Importance

- A. Most important to least important.

 Most common M.O.D. Bottom line on top.
- B. Least important to most important.Bottom line at the bottom. Used when delivering bad news.

2. Chronological

Arrange information in time, i.e. accident reports, progress reports.

3. Specific to General—Use specific to general when your audience has little knowledge of the subject. Lead into (inductive method) the major point.

General to Specific -- Audience has prior knowledge of the subject so v/riting concentrates on specifics and/or features (deductive method).

4. Comparison/Contrast-- Advantages/Disadvantages. When using this method, group the advantages of A and B together; then the disadvantages of A and B together. This makes your analysis of the information more accessible to the reader.



HANDOUT 8.2

COPYEDITING ACTIVITY

Note: Responses will vary according to the texts/style guides consulted.

In April of 1974, Ms. Carr went to the District Attorney's office in this city and applied for NON-AFCX services. At that time the District Attorney's office handled all non-welfare cases. Unfortunately, there was no cross-referencing between the District Attorney's office and Social Services. The District Attorney's office filed an Uresa petition to the State of Wyoming. The State of Wyoming ordered Mr. Carr to pay the sum of \$17.50 for the benefit of his children commencing on January 6, 1975. (attached)

In 1975 Ms. Carr did reapply and receive AFDC benefits and assigned her rights to child support to the Department of Social Services. Under this state's law we can collect principal and interest on child support arrears up to the amount of public assistance expended. In this case the state provided \$17,116.05 in assistance for these children.

The Uresa order was modified on February 2, 1985 when the oldest child turned 18 years old. This child support order terminated when the youngest child turned 18 years old on October 24, 1986.

Although Mr. Carr was ordered to pay a lesser amount through the Wyoming courts, this state's Juvenile order still remained in effect. This state stopped accruing a current monthly support amount when Ms. Carr



HANDOUT 8.1, page 2

discontinued receiving AFCD benefits for her children on October 31, 1979.

All payments made under Wyoming's provisions have been credited under the this state's Juvenile Act.



HANDOUT 9.1

Sentences, Fragments, and Clauses

Criteria for a Sentence

Has a subject
Has a predicate
Expresses a complete thought

Example: The employees (subject) enjoyed (predicate) the Christmas banquet. (statement expresses a complete thought)

Criteria for a fragment

Lacks a subject/predicate
Always refers to something incomplete

Example: Interviewed the candidate. (subject is missing; thought is incomplete)

Criteria for a clause

Group of words that has a subject and a predicate The following are 2 kinds of clauses:

Independent clause: Group of words that has a subject, predicate, and expresses a complete thought. (An independent clause is a simple sentence when it stands alone.)

Example: <u>The policeman blew his whistle</u> (independent clause), and <u>the traffic stopped.</u> (independent clause)

Dependent (subordinate) clause: Group of words that has a subject and predicate but the clause cannot stand alone. A dependent clause depends upon the independent clause for its meaning.

Example: <u>The cars stopped</u> (independent clause) when the policeman blew his whistle. (dependent clause)



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS WRITING

Practice

Circle the independent clauses and underline the dependent (subordinate) clauses in the following sentences:

- 1. Although a new safety program has been implemented, the number of accidents continues to increase.
- 2. I don't ski because I am afraid of heights.
- 3. When the wind finally stopped we heard the bells ringing.
- 4. We heard the bells ringing when the wind finally stopped.
- 5. He spent a lot of time with his family after he retired.
- 6. Since we finished the project we have more leisure time.
- 7. I memorized several poems when I was in high school.
- 8. When she receives the final draf she will call you
- 9. We painted the furniture and then we raked the yard
- 10. After two weeks in the repair shop, the microwave is broken again



HANDOUT 11.1

COPYEDITING ACTIVITY

Note: Responses will vary depending on the texts/style guides consulted.

To:

All Employees

From:

Charles Jolley, Manger of Corporate Relations

Date: December 15, 1992

I want to thank all of you who participated in the recent Annual Giving Campaign. Because of your generosity, our company raised nearly \$27,000. While our contributions will go a long way towards helping dozens of organizations and thousands of people in need in the Denver area, on a comparative basis, we reached only 72 percent of our goal.

As the Mile High Annual Giving Campaign chairperson, I've worked with a volunteer team to promote increased giving among Denver's corporate community. I feel a deep personal commitment to this year's campaign and hope our company can play a leading role.

The campaign was conducted in a short timeframe and was more low key than in past years. Some of you have told me you did not have the opportunity to contribute this year. If you would like to support this campaign, there's still time. Just complete the attached pledge form and return through interoffice mail by January 5, 1993.

Again, thank you for your generosity.



HANDOUT 11.2

REDUNDANCIES

Eliminate redundancies, make appropriate word choices, and then rewrite the following sentences.

1. At this point in time, it is our first and foremost objective to assess the fiscal implications of foreign imports.

Our first objective is to assess the fiscal effects of imports.

2. Whether or not you meet your weight loss goals and objectives depends upon the final outcome you have established for yourself.

Whether you meet your weight loss goals depends on the final outcome you have set for yourself.

3. The current status of the overall plan indicates a new breakthrough in turnkey technology.

The plan indicates a breakthrough in turnkey technology.

4. In his personal opinion, the basic and fundamental problem with education is that teachers don't make the welfare of our children their first priority.

He believes the fundamental problem in education is that teachers don't make children their priority.

5. After they rendered a detailed examination of the spacecraft, the scientists made the recommendation to extensively restructure the space program.

Scientists thoroughly examined the spacecraft and recommended a major restructuring of the space program.



Handout 11.2, page 2

6. In compliance with your request, please find enclosed a copy of your new insurance policy.

At your request, I have enclosed a copy of your new policy.

7. Input your social security number to receive assistance in completing your application form.

Enter your social security number to receive help in completing your application.

8. I would like to make a recommendation that we initiate a contract with Zinko Incorporated and terminate our contracts with other vendors.

I recommend that we begin a contract with Zinko Incorporated and end our other contracts.

9. The client's past medical history is confidential.

The client's medical history is confidential.

10. The secretary sent a duplicate copy of the tuition fees to the chairman of the committee.

The secretary sent a copy of the tuition to the committee's chairperson.



HANDOUT 11.3

DIFFICULT DUOS

In the following sentences, circle the correct responses.

- 1. The (affects, effects) of the drug on the nervous system are unknown. effects
- 2. All customer service representatives are instructed to answer the phone, "(May, Can) I help you?" May
- 3. Chicago is (farther, further) from Denver than Omaha. farther
- 4. I have (fewer, less) books than my sister. fewer
- 5. The gift shop received a large shipment of floral (stationary, stationery). stationery
- 6. (Irregardless, Regardless) of his excellent credit history, he was denied a mortgage loan. **Regardless**
- 7. The size of an engine (affects, effects) gas mileage. affects
- 8. I (implied, inferred) from her comments that she didn't like the performance. inferred
- 9. (Whether, Whether or not) you are successful in school depends on your degree of commitment. Whether
- 10. He likes houses (that, which) have basements. that
- 11. Gala apples are (different from, different than) delicious apples. different from
- 12. Her letter (implied, inferred) that a reorganization was imminent. implied
- 13. He is ill (due to, because of) stress. due to
- 14. The blouse and skirt (complement, compliment) one another perfectly. complement
- 15. Skiing well requires (continual, continuous) practice continual



computer literate

HANDOUT 15.6

RESUME WRITING EXERCISE

In resume writing it's important to not only list your skills and personal characteristics, but also to quantify them for your reader.

Instead of	<u>State</u>
typing	typing 65 wpm
data entry	data entry at 12,000 keystrokes per minute

Revise the following terms so they will be more useful to a reader. Answers will vary.

SKILLS

State
maintain 600 files daily
responsible for \$60,000 in daily receipts
distribute mail to 1000 employees daily
Accounts Payable/Receivable
English/Spanish

Advanced WP 5.1 and Lotus 1.2.3.

<u>PERSONAL</u>	<u>CHARACTERISTICS</u>
organized	established desk procedures for department
take-charge person	initiated employee assistance program
supervisory skills	supervised 45 employees
conscientious	notified management of billing irregularities
competent	reduced overtime by 60%



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