Web resources for writers

Thesis Statements

Thesis Statements, Writing Tutorial Services (Indiana University). This page briefly discusses how to think about creating a good thesis statement and provides a number of both "weak" and "strong" examples. http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/thesis_statement.shtml

The Thesis Statement, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. A more in-depth discussion about what a thesis is, what it does and how to discover one, as well as some discussion of "weak" and "strong" example theses. http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/thesis.html

Tips and Examples for Writing Thesis Statements, Purdue University OWL. A brief discussion of the differences between analytical, expository and argumentative thesis statements with examples of each. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/

Writing Process

The Writing Process, Cleveland State University's Writing Center. Easy-to-follow advice for each step of the process, from first thoughts to final polishing. http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/writingcenter/writproc.html

Revising Prose, Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute's Writing Center. This list with short examples of the things to look for when revising can help you polish your work. http://www.rpi.edu/dept/llc/writecenter/web/revise.html

Critical Reading

Three Ways to Read and Discuss Texts, Daniel J. Kurland's www.criticalreading.com. Kurland's website offers a large amount of information related to critical reading and writing. The most germane section is this page on reading texts; it provides information on both how to approach the reading of text and on how to approach the discussion of the text. http://www.criticalreading.com/ways_to_read.htm

Quicktips - Critical Reading Strategies, University of Minnesota. A quick and simple guide to getting the most out of your reading. http://writing.umn.edu/sws/quick_help/process/crit_read.htm

Reading to Write, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Discusses reading and note-taking strategies for engaging with materials that you will be writing about. http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/readingwriting.html

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Web resources for writers

Grammar


**Guide to Grammar and Writing**, Capital Community College. This is a comprehensive guide that covers all aspects of grammar and syntax as well as organization of sentences and paragraphs and more. It includes quizzes and an index to help you find exactly what you need. [http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/](http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/)


**Dr. Grammar's FAQ**, University of Northern Iowa. The Dr. Grammar site includes a wide variety of resources, but among its most valuable are the FAQs, which address specific word-choice and sentence-construction questions. [http://drgrammar.org/faqs/](http://drgrammar.org/faqs/)

Style

The **Elements of Style**, William Strunk, Jr. (Bartleby.com). The entire text of this classic style guide is available from Great Books Online. Note that this version of the guide is an older, public-domain edition that was published before E.B. White's 's mid-century revision; the newer Strunk and White *Elements of Style* can be found at the library. [http://www.bartleby.com/141/](http://www.bartleby.com/141/)

**The A to Z of Alternative Words** (.PDF download), The Plain English Campaign. This is designed to help you revise your prose to be smoother, more straightforward, and less wordy. It is a guide for replacing long or complicated words with more elegant, simpler ones. [http://www.plainenglish.co.uk/files/alternative.pdf](http://www.plainenglish.co.uk/files/alternative.pdf)
General Writing Guides and Tutorials

**Advice on Academic Writing**, University of Toronto. This site is more of a handbook than simple advice, but the "General Advice" section in particular is one of its most valuable pages. [http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice](http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice)


**Writing Tutorial Services**, Old Dominion University. Written with a less formal style, this handbook covers the writing process specifically from the perspective of those writing for English classes. [http://al.odu.edu/wts/students/process/index.shtml](http://al.odu.edu/wts/students/process/index.shtml)

**Writer's Web**, University of Richmond’s Writing Center. This guide to writing research papers envisions the process as a web of activity. [http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb.html](http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb.html)

**Writing Handouts**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. These offer a detailed set of handouts that clearly address the logic behind each step of the writing process. [http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/index.html](http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/index.html)

Specialized Writing Tasks

**Writing in the Disciplines**, University of Richmond’s Writing Center. This section of the writer’s web has links to subject-specific writing guides. [http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/disciplines.html](http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/disciplines.html)

**Subject Specific Research Guides**, UC Santa Barbara Library. This section of the library’s website has guides and links to research sources by subject and sometimes by course. [http://guides.library.ucsb.edu/](http://guides.library.ucsb.edu/)

**Research Tutorial**, UC Santa Barbara Library. This is a tutorial to help you with finding and evaluating sources. [http://www.library.ucsb.edu/learn/](http://www.library.ucsb.edu/learn/)

Citation

**APA, MLA, and Chicago Style** guidelines, Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University. The OWL has updated versions of Style guidelines. APA: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)
MLA: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/)
CMS: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/12/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/12/)

**Citation**, University of Wisconsin Madison. Printable handouts for a variety of style guides. [http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html](http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html)
ESL/EML Resources

Online Grammar Exercises and EML/ESL Resources, Learning Dynamics. Quick grammar lessons and self-correcting exercises as well as resources for advanced English learners. 
http://www.englishpage.com/

Writing support for multilingual writers, University of Minnesota. A set of resources on writing challenges particularly faced by EML writers. Current contents discuss article use. 
http://writing.umn.edu/sws/multilingual/index.html#mlvideo
[Click on “ARTICLES: Choosing a/an, the, or nothing (Ø) with common nouns” (pop-up),”]

Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, 
http://www.oxfordadvancedlearnersdictionary.com/?cc=global

Longman dictionary of Contemporary English, 
http://www.ldoceonline.com/