

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

Index

Words or phrases in small capitals in the index are those whose use in medical writing is discussed specifically in the text. Page numbers in **bold** indicate where in the text the main discussion takes place.

- A/AN 228, 239, 277–9
 abbreviations
 good use of 79, 307
 Latin 305
 poor use of 55, 108, 131–2,
 303–5, 306–9
 of units 306
 -ABLE 33
 abolish 181
 about 58, **210, 213**
 ABSENCE **160–1**, 174
 ABSORB/ADSORB 33
 abstain 235
 abstracts **92–3, 167, 222**
 accessibility to the general
 public 2, 9
 ACCOMMODATION 33
 (ON) ACCOUNT (OF) 214
 ACHIEVE **183–4**
 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 39,
 351
 acronyms 44, 303, 308
 see also abbreviations
 active voice 221, 281
 actual 14
 ACUTE 49
ad hoc 305
 ADDITIONAL 49
 ADDRESS **184–6**
 adjectives 29
 absolute (non-gradable)
 181, 182
 and adverbs 15, 272–3
 for EAL writers **271–3**
 -ic/-ical endings 272, 351
 limpet 82, 98, 157
 nouns as 24, 233, 273
 position 271–2
 see also stacked modifiers
 ADJUDICATE 49
 ADMINISTER(ED) 21, **49–50**
 ADMINISTRATED 51
 ADMINISTRATION **50–1**
 ADOPT 51
 ADSORB/ABSORB 33
 adumbrate 117
 ADVENT 52
 adverbs 29
 and adjectives 15, 272–3
 hyphenation to following
 word 36
 position **237–8, 314–15**
 sentence adverbs **241–2, 268**
 unnecessary **181–2**
 ADVOCATE 52
 AETIOLOGY **53–4**
 see also CAUSE/CAUSATION
 AFFECT 21, 75
 affirmative statements 13,
 261–2
 AFFORD 54
 after 93
 age of patients
 ELDERLY **191**
 YOUNG 4, **198–9, 252–3**
 AGGRAVATE 55
 aim 196
 Albert, Tim 201
 alcohol 235
 ALIQUOT/sample 56
 ALL 227
 ALLEVIATE 56
 allocated 73, 139
 allow/ALLOW for 54, **258–9**
 ALLUDE 56
 allusions 291–2, 327
 almost 58, **158**
 almost all **108**
 ALREADY **259–60**
 ALRIGHT 33
 ALSO 260
 alter 114
 ALTERNATIVE 57
 ambiguity in writing
 choice of word 29, 76, 93,
 103, 214–15
 missing words **238–9**
 punctuation and 215, 233,
 240, **243–5, 245–6**
 sentence construction
 300–1, 314–15
 in stacked modifiers 234
 word order and **195–6, 238**
 ambiguous 84
 AMELIORATE 20, 57
 American English
 adjectives 272, 351
 capital letters 44, 240
 eponyms 307
 prepositions 276
 spelling 30, 32, **351–3**
 usage 41–2, 133, 140, 208,
 260, 276
 wordiness of journals 256–7
 amitriptyline 37
 among 114
 AMOUNT 57, 107
 amplitude 107
 an 279
 see also A/AN
 analogue/analog 351
 anatomy 115
 ANCILLARY 34
 and 15, 227, **250–1, 296–7**
 ANTE/ANTI 34
 antecedent nouns 139, **217–18,**
 264, 279
 anthropometry/
 anthropomorphism 47
 ANY/ANY OF **227, 261–2**
 apostrophes **38–9, 264, 304**
 apparently 241
 appendectomy 40
 appendix 229
 APPROXIMATELY 57–8
 Arabic language/writers 44,
 274
 are 67, 87
 see also is

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer

Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

- AREA 58, 105
 ARMAMENTARIUM 58–9
 ARRRHYTHMIA 34
 articles (a, an, the) 213, 228, 239, 277–9
 articles (pieces of writing) *see* medical articles
 AS 24, 214–15
 AS FAR AS 189
 AS REGARDS 203
 AS TO 210
 asked 69
 ASSOCIATED WITH 53, 186–9
 at the end of the day 285–6
 ATTAIN 183–4
 ATTENUATE 59–60
 augment 47
 AUTHOR 60
 autopsy 64
 AUXILIARY 34
 auxiliary verbs 55, 281, 282
 axes (in graphs) 317, 321–2
- BACTERIA 228–229
 bacterial names 44
 ballot/ballot 41
 Barrass, Robert 7
 based on 100, 133
 BASICALLY 163–4
 BASIS 161
 be able (can) 12, 60–1, 205
 BECAUSE 24, 214–17, 269
 before 134–5, 144
 begin 64–5
 best 118
 better than 152
 between 77, 114, 164, 256
 biblical allusions 292
 bleed 46, 94
BMJ (British Medical Journal) 4, 95, 120, 247–8
 BOLUS 60
 book reviews 6
 BOOKS TO READ OR DIP INTO 355–7
 both 76–7, 296–7
 brackets, round *see* parenthesis
 BREACH/BREECH 34
 breathing 141–2
 brief/briefly 15
 British English
 -ise or -ize 102
 spelling compared with American English 32, 41, 351–3
 usage 41–2, 140, 208, 260, 276
- Bryson, Bill (*Troublesome words*) 32, 84, 94, 134, 184, 194, 218, 266
 BULK 60
 but 24
 by 155, 208–9, 275
 BY MEANS/VIRTUE OF 211
 BY REASON OF 214, 267
 BY THE USE/PRESENCE OF 205
 by which 219–20
 by-phrases 211, 222
- CAESAREAN/CAESARIAN 34
 calvaria 229
 can (be able) 12, 60–1, 205
 Canadian English 41
 cannula 229
 CAPABILITY 60–1, 205
 CAPACITY 60–1, 205
 capital letters 30, 34, 44, 240, 308
 captions (figure legends) 231, 317
 Carroll, Lewis (*Alice's adventures through the looking glass*) 46, 217
 carry out 124–7
 CASE (patient) 61
 CASE (superfluous word) 161, 212–13
 CAUSE/CAUSATION 53, 61–2, 186–9, 194, 267
 -ce/-se spellings 352–3
 certainly 241
 change 114–15
 children 4, 198–9, 252–3
 Chinese language/writers 13
 prepositions 274, 275
 style 12, 276
 tense 283
 CHORD/CORD 36
 CHRONIC 62–3
 circumlocution 252–7
 examples 24, 26–7, 93, 132–3, 172
 citations 31, 305
 clarity in writing 26
 CLASSIC/CLASSICAL(LY) 63
 clauses 29
 describing/defining/
 restrictive/non-restrictive 243
 in sentence construction 13, 296–303, 327
 started by which or that 243–5
 subordinate 29, 296, 300–2
- CLEARLY 170–1, 241
 clichés 285–8, 290–1
see also limpet adjectives
 clinically significant/meaningful 111
 close to 136–7
 COCKTAIL 63–4
 COFACTOR/CO-FACTOR 34
 COHORT 64, 130
 COLLECTIVE 64, 131
 collective nouns 228
 colloquial language 4, 63, 161, 213, 276
 colons 77, 240, 245, 246–7, 327
 column graphs (histograms) 317–20
 (IN) COMBINATION WITH 211
 commas
 before because 215
 in lists 245–6
 in numbers 306
 after sentence adverbs 241–2
 in sentence construction 297, 302–3, 327
 between subject and verb 242–3
 before which and that 218, 243–5
- COMMENCE 64–5
 COMMONALITY 65
 COMPARABLE 66
 COMPARATIVELY 177
 COMPARE TO/WITH 206–7
 COMPETITIVENESS 66
 COMPLEMENTARY/
 COMPLIMENTARY 35, 66–7
The Complete Plain Words see Gowers
 completely 181–2
 COMPLEX/COMPLICATED 67
 COMPRISE 67–8
 compulsory 109
 computers
 grammar checkers
 graphic packages 316, 322
 spell checkers
 word processors 14, 29–31
 concentrates on 93
 concentration(s) 103–4, 255
 CONCEPT/conceptualization 68, 80, 107, 289
 CONCERN/CONCERNING 189–90, 213
 concord, errors of 226–7
 condition (disease) 123

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

360

Index

- conditional mood 282
CONDITIONS (environment)
 162, 191–2
confirm 192–3
(IN) CONJUNCTION WITH
 211–12
conjunctions 29, 296–7
 and/or 15, 227, 250–1
 because and variants 24,
 214–17, 269
CONNECT TO/BY/WITH 207
CONSCIOUS 35
CONSENSUS 35–6
consenting 194
considerably 74
CONSIST OF 67–8
consonants, doubling 41, 352–2
constant 217
CONSTITUTES 68–9
CONSTRUCTED 69
CONSULTED 69
-CONTAINING 234, 235,
 249–50
continuing 117–18
contractions 16, 276
CONTRAST WITH/TO 207–8
control 114, 219
CONTROVERSY/
CONTROVERSIAL(LY)
 69–70, 262
cooperation 152
copy-editors 6, 327
CORD/CHORD 36
CORRELATE WITH/TO 208
CORRELATION 140
could 132–3
COUNSEL/COUNCIL 36
count 138
countable nouns 277
Crick, Francis 25–6, 46–7, 244
CRITERIA 228–9
cultural differences in EAL
 papers 12–13, 276
current 14, 117–18
cutting edge 291
Czech language/writers 310–11
- dangling participles** 155, 300
dashes 115, 242–3, 245
DATA 70, 228–9
data
 graphs 316–22
 misrepresentation 321–2
 units 43, 306
DEARTH 70, 124
death 90–1, 234, 273
- decide** 49
decimal point 306
decimate 2
DECISION-MAKING 169–70,
 174
decrease 20, 110, 253, 255
DEFINE BY/AS 208
definite 84
definite article (THE) 213, 228,
 239, 277–9
dehumanizing language 61, 89,
 127, 137, 138–9, 150, 155
delay 234–5
DEMOGRAPHIC 70–1
DEMONSTRATE 71–2
depend on 133
DEPENDANT/DEPENDENT 36
describe 192–3, 263
designed 69
DETERMINE/DETERMINATION
 190–1, 253
determiners 277
see also individual words
develop 263
development 52, 86
diabetes 163
DIAGNOSE with/by 208
diagrams (graphs) 231, 316–22
dictionaries 16, 41, 356
differences between 114, 205
DIFFERENT from/to/than
 208–9
differential 201
difficult/difficulties 135
digression 12
DILATION/DILATATION 36
DILEMMA 72
disadvantage 74–5
DISC/DISK 36
DISCREET/DISCRETE 36–7
discuss 273–4
Discussion (article section) 27,
 231, 282
disease 123
DISINTERESTED 72–3
distinguish 274
DIVIDED 73
Dixon, Bernard 1, 316
do/done/did 124–5
dogma 46–7
DOMICILIARY 34
DOSE/DOSAGE 73
double entendres 15, 173, 194,
 305
double negatives 261, 266–7
drafting a paper 27–8, 231
- DRAMATIC(ALLY)** 73–4
DRAWBACK 74–5
DRUG NAMES 37, 44
DUE TO 215, 216–17
Dutch language/writers 275–6,
 311
DYSRHYTHMIA 34
- each** 76, 226–7, 263
EAL *see* English as an
 additional language
Eats, shoots & leaves (Truss)
 240
-ed endings 41, 271–2
editors/editing 6–7, 45, 327
education 8
EFFECT 21, 75, 97–8
EFFICACIOUS/effective 75,
 263
e.g. 151–2, 305
EGREGIOUS 76
EITHER 76
EITHER . . . OR 226, 267
ELABORATE 86, 262–3
ELDERLY 191
ELEVATED 77
eliminate 181–2
ellipsis 238–9, 245, 314
ELUCIDATE 78–9
elusive 97
EMESIS 79
emphasize 192–3, 275
EMPIRICAL 79–80
EMPLOY 80
enable 54
ENCOUNTERED 80–1
English *see* American English;
 British English
English as an additional
 language (EAL) 11–16
 adjectives and adverbs 271–3
 articles (missing) 99, 213
 capital letters 44
 compound words 250
 grammar 13–14, 29
 numbers 306
 peer review 6, 11
 plurals (incorrect) 174,
 278–9
 prepositions 135, 273–6
 proportion of PubMed®
 articles in English xi
 sentence construction 13,
 310–15
 spelling 14, 37
 style 12–13, 276

- tense of verbs 268–9, **281–4**
 this/that/which 220, 245
 titles for medical articles **288–93**
 word choice **14–16**, 61, 63, 69, 85, 139, 152, 179, 219, **258–71**
see also individual languages
- ENHANCED **78**
 ENIGMA **81**
 ENORMITY **81–2**
 ENTITY **82–3**, 326
 ENVIRONMENT **191–2**, 330–1
 EPIDEMIC/EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS **162–3**
 episode **83**
 EPOCH **83–4**
 eponyms 307
 EQUIVOCAL **84**
 error bars 317, 320
 ESPECIALLY 16
 essential 98–9, 109
 ESSENTIALLY **163–4**
 Estonian language/writers 264, 313
et al. 305
 etc. 305
 ETHICAL/ETHICS **64, 85**
 ETIOLOGY **53–4**
see also CAUSE/CAUSATION
 euphemisms **89, 94, 108–9, 145–6**, 288
 EUTHANASE/EUTHANISE **145–6**
 EVALUATE **85–6**, 263
 EVERY **263**
 everyday language *see colloquial language*
 evidence(s) 279
 EVOLUTION **86**
 EXACERBATE **55**
 examine **85–6**, 262
 example **119–20**
 excellent **137–8**
 EXECUTE **125–7**
 exhausting/exhaustive 128
 EXHIBIT **71–2**
 EXIST/EXISTENCE **87–8**
 EXPECTORATE/spit **88**
 experience (superfluous word) 175
 EXPERIENCED (had) **89–90**
 experimental **79–80**
 EXPLORE/EXPLORATION **90**
 extremely 74
- fall 103
 false friends 14, 179, 263, 275
 fatal 91, 182
 FATALITY **90**
 FEASIBLE/feasibility **92**, 106, 157
 FEATURE **92**
 FETUS/FOETUS **37**
 FEW **70, 108, 124, 263–4**
 FEWER **57, 102–3**, 253
 Feynman, Richard 5–6, 7–8
 FIELD (of research) **58**, 105
 figures (illustrations) 231, **316–22**
 figures (numbers) *see numbers*
 figures of speech **285–8**, 327
 Find and Replace command 30
 FINDING OF 205
 FINDINGS **142–3**
 first/at first **100–1**
 first-person statements 221, 327
 FOCUS 41, **92–3**
 FOETUS/FETUS **37**
 follow-up 247
 FOLLOWING **93**
 fonts 319
 FOR 215, **268**, 312–14
 for example (e.g.) 151–2, 305
 foreign words/phrases 139, **305–6**
 foremost *see PARAMOUNT*
 forgeries 4
 FORMALLY **165**
 FORMER **165–6**
 formula 229
 forum 229
 FOUND **200–1**
Fowler's modern English usage 13, 194
 free 67
 French language/writers 260, 263, 303
 front-loaded sentences 300–2, 311–12
 full stops (periods) 240
 FUNCTION 125, **166–7**, 207
 FUNCTIONALITY **167**
 FUNDAMENTALLY **163–4**
 FURTHER STUDIES ARE NEEDED **167**, 309
 Gale, Edwin 323–6
 garden path sentences 236–7, 302–3
 GASSING/GASES/GASSES **41**
 GENDER **94**
- German language/writers
 capitals 44
 choice of words 64, 77, 111, 131, 179, 250
 count 228
 prepositions and conjunctions 14, 213, 268–9, 275
 sentence construction 311
 gerunds 258–9
 get 184
 ghoti 32, 45
 give/giving/given 21, **49–50**, 50, 54
 gold standard **286**, 290
 good **137–8**
 Google Ngram 20
 Google Scholar® 19, 21, 33
 Gowers (*The complete plain words*) 80, 93, 111, 124, 134, **182**, 233–4, 237, 247, 266
 grammar **28–9**, 327
 for EAL authors **13–14**, 29, **310–15**
see also specific terms
 grammar and style checkers 30–1
 granuloma 229
 graphs 231, **316–22**
 great 254
 greatly 74
 greengrocer's apostrophe 39
 GROUNDS **167–8**
 group 64, 130–1
 guess 96
- had/have **89–90**, **132**, **147**
 HAEMORRHAGE
 spelling 37
 usage **46, 94**
 hanging hyphens 250
 HAS BEEN SHOWN/FOUND **200–1**
 have/had **89–90**, **132**, **147**
 having 300
 Hayakawa, S.I. (*The Penguin guide to synonyms and related words*) 58, 84, 96, 98, 105, **147**, 165
 HE/SHE/THEY **95**, 251
 hedging terms 8–9, 12, 254–5
 help (to) 73
 her/him 95
 hers 38
 heterogeneous/heterogenous 53

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

362

Index

- HIATUS 87
 highest 110
 HIGHLIGHT 192–3, 205
 him/her 95
 histograms (column graphs) 317–20
 HISTORIC(AL) 95–6
 HISTORY 95
 holistic 186
 homogeneous/homogenous 53
 honesty 7–8
 hospital 278
 HOSPITALIZATION 101
 HOST 96
 house style 6, 102, 327
 Howard, Philip (*Winged words*) 286, 290
 HOWEVER 24, 168
 HUMAN RESOURCES 127
 hypens 34, 36, 56, 234, 247–50
 HYPOTHESIS/HYPOTHESIZE 96–7, 254
- ibid.* 305
 -IBLE 33
 -ic/-ical 272
 idea 68, 128–9
 identified 159
 idiom 15
 i.e. 305
 illness 91
 ILLUSIVE 97
 illusory 97
 illustrations 231, 316–22
 imaginary 97
 imitations 8–9
 IMPACT 21, 97–8
 impartial 72–3
 IMPERATIVE 98–9
 imperative statements 222
 IMPLICATE 99, 194
 IMPLY 100
 important 14–15, 109, 111–12, 122–3, 147, 195
 imprecise words 183–99
 improve 118
 in any case 213
 in case 161
 IN THE CASE OF 212–13
 in *category* (size, colour, etc.) 253
 IN COMBINATION WITH 211
 IN CONJUNCTION WITH 211–12
 in depth 235
- IN ORDER TO 201–2
 IN REGARD TO 166–7, 202
 IN RELATION TO 180, 203
 IN RESPECT OF 202
in situ 305
 IN TERMS OF 204–5, 326
 IN VIEW OF 214
in vitro 305
in vivo 305
 INCIDENCE 99–100
 increase/increased 20, 78, 110, 253, 255
 indeed 168
 indefinite article (A/AN) 228, 239, 277–9
 independent 36
 INDIVIDUALS 193
 INFECT WITH/BY 209
 INFER 100
 INFERIOR (TO) 152
 infinitives 276
 split 237
 inflection (grammar) 281, 310
 information 278
 INFORMED 100
 -ing endings 41
 INITIAL(LY) 100–1
 INITIATE 64–5
 injected/injections 50, 51, 60
 INNOVATIVE/INNOVATION 48
 INOCULATION 37–8
 INSTANCE 168–9
 INSTRUMENTS 197–8
inter alia 306
 introduction 52
 Introduction (article section) 27, 231, 294–6
 INTUSSUSCEPTION 38
 inverted commas 162, 247
 investigate 71, 90, 235, 263
 investigators 60
 INVOLVED 99, 194
 irregardless 16
 is 67, 68–9, 87, 93, 141, 146–7
 -ISE/-IZE/-ISATION/-IZATION 24, 30, 101–2, 139
 see also -ys/-yz spellings
 IT 264
 it has been suggested that 225
 Italian language/writers 263, 267
 IT'S/ITS 38, 264
- Japanese language/writers 12, 14, 15, 266, 268–9, 275
 journal articles *see* medical articles
- JOURNEY 171
 JUDG(E)MENT 39
- kill 144–6
 Kuhn, Thomas (*The structure of scientific revolutions*) 119
- l, double or single? 41, 352–2
 lack 70, 124
Lancet 4–5, 9, 306, 323–6
 large/larger/largest 73–4, 110–11, 143–4, 195, 253
 LAST 102
 Latin binomials 44
 Latin expressions 305–6
 Latinate spellings 351–2
 plural endings 228–9
 LATTER 165–6, 338, 339
 lazy slash 95, 250–1, 331
 LEAD/LED 39
 legal issues 9
 legends for figures 231, 317
 LESS 57, 102–3
 let 259
 LETHALITY/LETHAL 91
 LEVEL 103–4, 255
 level playing fields 291
 liaison 173
 licence/license 42
 liken 207
 limit (parameter) 121–2
 limitations on clear writing 8
 limpet adjectives 82, 98, 157
 line graphs 317, 320–2
 linear structure 12–13
 linking words 12
 see also individual words/phrases
- lists
 punctuation of 245–7, 265
 of references 31, 305
 singular or plural 227–8
- LITANY 130
 LITERATURE 104–5
 LITIGIOUS 39
 lives 87
 LOCATION 105–6
 logic, errors of 8
 LOGISTICS 106–7, 229
 long-term 56, 62–3
 (a) lot 96, 129–30
 lowest 110
- MADE/MAKE 55, 69, 169–70
 MAGNITUDE 107–8, 253
 MAIN(LY) 134

- MAJOR 194–5, 234, 289
 MAJORITY 108
 MAKE/MADE 55, 69, 169–70
 make up 67–8
 MALODOROUS 108–9
 MANDATORY 98, 109–10
 MANIFEST 110
 many 96, 116, 129–30
 MAXIMIZE 110
 MAXIMUM/MAXIMAL 110–11
 MAY 111
 mean (signify) 147
 MEANINGFUL 111–12
 (BY) MEANS OF 211
 measure 85–6, 115, 138
 measurement units 43, 306
 Medawar, Peter 5
 MEDIA 229
 medical articles
 drafting 27–8
 editing 6–7, 45
 examples of good style 25–6, 323–7
 the first sentence 294–6
 the last sentence 309
 tenses 231, 282
 titles 60, 173, 181–2, 191, 288–93
 MEIOSIS/MIOSIS 40
 MENISCECTOMY
 mention 56
 metaphors 285–8, 327
 METHODOLOGY/methods 112–13
 Methods (article section) 27, 231, 282
 MIGHT 111
 milieu 191–2
 MILLENNIUM 40
 MINIMIZE 110
 MINIMUM/MINIMAL 111
 minor 195
 MINORITY 108
 MINUSCULE 40
 MIOSIS/MEIOSIS 40
 Mitchell, J. R. A. 60
 mixture 63–4
 MODALITY 113–14
 MODIFY 114
 MODULATE 114–15
 momentary/momentarily 42
 MONITOR 115
 Monod, Jacques 47
 mood 6
 morbidity 91
 more 49, 103
 MOREOVER 180
 MORPHOLOGY 115
 MORTALITY 90–1, 234
 most 60, 108
 mother 4
 MUCOUS/MUCUS/MUCOSA 40
 MULTIPLE 116
 must 98–9
 MYRIAD 130
 NAMEDLY 265
 NATURE 170
 NAUSEOUS/NAUSEATED 40–1
see also VOMITING
 near to 136–7
 nearly 58
 necessary 109
 needed 98–9
 negative statements/negation 13, 215, 261–2, 265–7
 NEGATIVE(LY) 98, 142, 172
 neglectable 16
 NEITHER . . . NOR 226, 267
 neologisms
 nouns into verbs 101, 150, 207
 using prefixes and suffixes 33, 34, 101, 116–17, 159
 -NESS 116–17
 NEVERTHELESS 180
 new 20, 47–8, 154
 Ngram 20
 NO/NOT 265–7
 non- 247
 non-gradable words 181–2
 non-native speakers (NNS) *see* English as an additional language (EAL)
 NONE 227
 NONETHELESS 180
 normal(ly) 140, 238
 not as good as 152
 NOTED 117, 201, 222
 noticed 117
 nouns 28
 adjectival 24, 233, 273
 antecedent 139, 217–18, 264, 279
 capitals 44
 collective 228
 countable or uncountable 277
 hyphenation 34, 247–50
 made into verbs 101, 150, 207
 -ness endings 116–17
 and pronouns 217–18
 singular or plural 70, 226–30, 278–9, 306, 310
 in stacked modifiers 233–7, 249–50
 verbs preferable to 13
 NOVEL 20, 26, 47–8, 289
 novel tool 198
 NUMBER 57, 131, 228
 number (singular or plural) 70, 226–30, 278–9, 306
 numbers
 in graphs 317–22
 in the text 306, 317
see also statistics
 NUMEROUS 116, 130
 O/O (zero) 37
 obfuscation 9
 objective 196
 obtain 183–4
 OBTUND 117
 OBIVIATE 117
 OBVIOUSLY 170–1
 OCCURRED 81, 89, 110
 and doubling consonants 41
 O'Donnell, Michael 6, 47
 of 209, 210, 275, 279
 old (ELDERLY) 191
 ON-GOING 117–18
 ONLY 195–6, 232
 open access journals 6–7
 OPHTHALMIC 42
 OPTIMUM/OPTIMAL/OPTIMIZE 118
 OPTION 196
 or 15, 227, 250–1
 ordinary 20
 organization 106–7
 original 100
 other 57
 -our/-or endings 352
 outcome 70
 OVERSIGHT 118–19
 overwhelming 108
 OWING TO 215, 217
 pacemaker 247
 paediatric patients 4, 198–9, 252–3
 pain 155, 255
 PANDEMIC 163
 paracetamol 44
 PARADIGM 119–20, 290
 paradigm shift 291
 PARALLEL CONSTRUCTION 79, 212, 296–9, 327

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

364

Index

- PARAMETER 120–2, 196
 PARAMOUNT 122–3
 parenthesis 242–3
 part 68, 144
 participants 150
 participles 28–9
 dangling 155, 300
 past 39, 136, 271–2, 300
 particular 154–5
 PARTLY/PARTIALLY 123
passim 305
 passive voice 14, 221–5, 230–1, 310
 when to use 142, 222, 327
 past 102
 past participles 39, 136, 271–2, 300
 past tense 231, 281–3
 PATHOLOGY 123
 PATHWAY 171
 patient(s) 61, 150, 235–6
 Paton, Alex 75
 pattern 119–20
 PAUCITY 124
 peer review 6–7
 EAL papers and reviewers 6, 11
Penguin guide to synonyms and related words see
 Hayakawa, S.I.
 people 193
 PERCENTAGE 228
 perfect tense 230, 260, 267, 282–3
 PERFORM 124–7, 223–4
 PERIOD 83–4, 172
 periods (full stops) 240
 PERSONNEL 127
 Perutz, Max 5
 pharmaceutical names 37, 44
 PHENOMENON 128
 PHILOSOPHY 128–9
 phrases 29, 296
 compound prepositions 210–14
 foreign 139, 305–6
 superfluous 189, 200–5, 212–13
 Phythian, Brian 24, 101
 Pickering, Sir George 9–10
 place 105, 144
 plan 149
 platitudes 27
 PLETHORA 129–30
 plotted 253
 plurals 70, 174, 226–30, 278–9, 306, 310
poder (can) 12
 point 157
 pomposity 47, 53, 58, 110, 141
 Popper, Karl 1
 POPULATION 130–2
 portion 56, 68
 POSIT 132
 positive statements 13, 261–2
 POSITIVE(LY) 98, 142–3, 172–3
 POSSESS 132
 possessives 38–9, 264, 304
 POSSIBLE 92, 132
 POTENTIAL(LY) 132–3
 practice parameters 122
 PRACTICE/PRACTISE 16, 42
 precision in language 4
 PREDICATE 133
 PREFERENTIAL/preferable 133
 prefixes 34, 247
 premium 229
 prepositions 29
 compound 210–14
 for EAL writers 135, 273–6
 following verbs and
 adjectives 206–10
see also individual words
 PRESCRIBE 43, 65
 prescription 140
 PRESENCE 173–4
 BY THE PRESENCE OF 205
 present tense 231, 282–3
 present with 71, 110
 presently 42
 PREVALENCE 99–100, 256
 prevent 117, 181, 289
 pretension (in writing)
 previous 105, 134–5, 259–60
 PRINCIPAL(LY) 43, 134
 PRINCIPLE 43
 PRIOR TO 134–5, 144
 prioritization 141
 PROBABLE 92
 problem 72, 74
 PROBLEMATIC(ALLY) 135
 PROCESS 128, 174–5
 PROGRAMME/PROGRAM 43, 135
 progression 86
 pronouns 28, 95, 217–18, 264
 possessive 38, 264
 proofs, checking 45
 properly 165
 prophylactic 80
 PROSCRIBE 43
 PROTOCOL 135–6
 PROVEN/PROVED 136
 provide 54
 PROXIMITY 136–7
 proximity, principle of 226
 PRUDENT 137
 PubMed® xi, 19–20, 21, 33
 punctuation 240–51
 can cause ambiguity 215, 233, 240, 243–5, 245–6
 in lists 245–7, 265
 in sentence construction 297, 298–9, 302–3, 327
see also individual punctuation marks
 puns 292
 PURPOSE 175–6
 purposeful 111
 pushback 16
 put down (kill) 145–6
 puzzle 81
 QUALITY 137–8
 QUANTIFY/QUANTITATE 138
 quantum leap 286
 radius 229
 raised 77
raison d'être 139
 RANDOMIZED 138–9
 range 148–9, 256
 rare 54, 155
 RATIONALE 139
 raw data 70
re 305
 -re/-er endings 352
 reach 183–4
 REASON 139, 267
 RECENT(LY) 176, 267–8
 recorded 115
 recurrence rate 143
 reduce 56, 57, 59–60, 98, 110, 173
 refer 56
 referees 6
 REFERENCE BOOKS and
 FURTHER READING 356–7
 reference lists 31, 305
 REFUTE 139–40
 REGARD/REGARDING 189, 190, 213
 IN/WITH REGARD TO 166–7, 177, 204–5, 213–14
 REGIME 140
 regimen 140
 REGULAR 16, 140

- reject **139–40**
- RELATION/RELATIONSHIP
15, **140–1**
IN RELATION TO **180, 203**
- RELATIVELY **177**
- relieve **56**
- remove **117**
- repetition **13, 25–6, 217–18, 244, 327**
- REPLACE WITH/BY/FOR **209**
- REPRESENTS **141**
- (IN) RESPECT OF/(WITH)
RESPECT TO **177, 205–4, 214**
- RESPECTIVELY **178–9**
- RESPIRATORY **141–2**
- restrictive/non-restrictive
clauses **243**
- RESULTS **70, 142–3**
- Results (article section) **27, 231, 282**
- RESUSCITATION **43**
- REVEAL **143**
- reverse causation **62**
- reviews of books **6**
- REVOLUTIONARY **143–4**
- rhetorical questions **60**
- RISK OF/FOR/FROM/OVER
209
- ROLE **144**
- (into the) rose garden **327**
- Russian language/writers **75, 310**
- 's **38–9, 264, 304**
- SACRIFICE **144–6**
- SAMPLE **56, 64, 130–1**
- SCENARIO **146**
- scheme **135, 140, 149**
- Schwager, Edith (*Medical usage and abuse*) **74, 252**
- section **83**
- SEDATE WITH/BY **210**
- see **159**
- segment **83**
- self-control **219**
- semi-colons **24, 245, 246–7, 298, 327**
- sensible **137**
- sentence adverbs **241–2, 268**
- sentences **294–309**
- abbreviations **55, 131–2, 303–5, 306–9**
- for EAL writers **13, 310–15**
- emphasis/complexity **13, 236–7, 300–3, 311–12**
- first sentence **294–6**
- first word **24, 300, 312–14**
- last phrase **315**
- last sentence **309**
- Latin expressions **305–6**
- length **13, 25, 28, 218, 297, 314**
- numbers and units **306, 317**
- PARALLEL
CONSTRUCTION **79, 212, 296–9, 327**
- punctuation **297, 298–9, 302–3, 327**
- subject/verb/object
construction **299, 310–12, 315**
- word order **232–8, 268, 271–2, 310–12**
- sequelae **254**
- serious **49**
- SERVES **146–7**
- severe **49**
- sex **94, 257**
- sexism in language **1, 95, 222, 251**
- Shakespearean allusions **292**
- shape **115**
- Shaw, George Bernard **32**
- SHE/HE/THEY **95, 251**
- shocking **76**
- short/shortly **15**
- short-term **49, 56**
- SHOW **71, 110, 143, 147**
- HAS BEEN SHOWN **200–1**
- Shuster, Sam **6**
- sick *see* NAUSEOUS/
NAUSEATED; VOMITING
- SIGNIFICANT(LY) **14, 59, 147, 217**
- SIGNIFY **147**
- similar **65, 66, 164**
- SIMPLISTIC/simple **147–8**
- SINCE **214–15, 268–9, 283–4**
- singular words **226–30, 306, 332**
- SINGULAR/single **148**
- site **105–6**
- SITUATION/SITUATED **146, 179–80**
- size
large **81–2**
MAGNITUDE **107–8**
- slang **16**
- slash, lazy **95, 250–1**
- smelly **108–9**
- Smith, Richard **288**
- solely **196**
- some **261**
- Spanish language/writers
choice of words **14–15, 91, 263**
- double negatives **261**
- prepositions **274**
- style **12**
- SPECIALITY/SPECIALTY **148**
- specialized language **9, 26**
- not always helpful **4–5**
- specific **154–5**
- SPECTRUM **148, 148–9**
- speculation **96**
- speech, differences from
writing **4, 28, 240**
- spelling **14, 32–45**
- differences between British
and American English
351–3
- 'find and replace' **30**
- spell checkers **14, 29–30**
- and word endings **24, 33, 41, 102, 352–3**
- spit **88**
- split infinitives **237**
- Springer exemplar **21**
- STACKED MODIFIERS **36, 159, 233–7, 249–50, 271–2, 312**
- staff **127**
- start **64–5**
- state-of-the-art **286, 290**
- statistically significant **14, 59, 147, 217**
- statistics **8, 120–1, 136, 217**
- singular or plural **229**
- strategem **150**
- STRATEGY **149–50, 180, 289–90**
- stress **192–3**
- student **141**
- study **274**
- style
cultural differences **12–13, 276**
- examples of good writing
25–6, 323–7
- excuses for bad writing **4–7**
- importance of good writing
1–2, 9–10, 19, 26, 48
- personal **7**
- publishers' house style **6, 102, 327**
- subject (grammar) **299, 311–12, 315**
- SUBJECT (patient) **150, 193**
- subject (topic) **58**

- subjunctive mood 121, 161
subordinate clauses 29, 296,
300–2
substantial(ly) 74, 147, 150–1
SUBSTANTIVE 150–1
SUBSTITUTE WITH/BY/FOR
209
SUCH 151–2
sudden 49, 74, 91
suffered 89
suffixes 33, 116–17, 159, 258–9
suggest/suggestion 25–6, 53,
96, 132
it has been suggested that 225
superfluous phrases 189,
200–5, 212–13
superfluous words 13, 160–82,
250
absent in good writing 26
SUPERIOR (TO) 152
surroundings 191–2
suspended hyphens 250
Swedish language/writers 206,
250
symbols in graphs 317, 319
symptoms 92
synchronous 227
SYNERGY 152
synonyms 15, 21, 46–7
see also Hayakawa; S. I.
syntax 28
see also grammar
- tables of results 202–3, 317
TARGET 3–4, 196–7
tautology 48, 53, 70, 137, 155,
174, 234–5
technical language 9, 26
not always helpful 4–5
techniques 59, 113, 152–3
TECHNOLOGY 152–3
tense (of verbs) 230–1, 260, 267
for EAL writers 268–9,
281–4
(IN) TERMS OF 204–5, 326
THAT 218, 220, 279–80
commas before 218, 243–5
that is (i.e.) 305
THE 213, 228, 239, 277–9
their 230
there is 264
THEREBY 219–20
THEREFORE 180
THESE 151, 220, 279–80
THEY 95
thing 82–3
- third person *see* passive voice
THIS 151, 220, 279–80
THOSE 220, 279–80
THRICE/three times 270
through 276
THUS 180
till 276
TIMEPOINT/time 153
titles for medical articles 60,
173, 181–2, 191, 288–93
to
in the infinitive 276
or with 206–8
TO BE 270
TOOLS 197–8, 290
topic 58
total (for a total of. . .) 228,
306
traditionally 241–2
TRAGEDY 153–4
Trask, R. L. 111, 134, 240
travel(l)ed 41
TREAT WITH/BY 210
treatment 113–14, 196
treatment strategy 149, 180
Truss, Lynne (*Eats, shoots &*
leaves) 240
trust 342–3
Tuft, E. R. 316, 318
Turkish language/writers 14,
275
TWO TIMES/twice 270–1
TYPE 131, 180–1
typeface (font) 319
typical 63, 120
- uncertain(ly) 72, 84
unclear 84
uncountable nouns 277
underlie 133
underline 43, 192–3
UNEQUIVOCAL 84
UNINTERESTED 73
UNIQUE 54, 154–5, 181
units of measurement 43, 306
unknown 78–9
unlike 207–8
unten (under) 14
until 275–6
upper case *see* capital letters
Urban Dictionary 16
use 51, 80, 156
USE OF
useful 112
USING 155
UTILIZE/UTILIZATION 156
- VARIABILITY 156
variable 120–1
VARIATION 156
varied 256
variety 116
VENTILATORY 141–2
verbs 28–9
auxiliary 55, 281, 282
compound 147, 200
infinitives 237, 276
non-gradable 181–2
passive 14, 142, 221–5,
230–1, 310, 327
position in sentence 299,
315
preferable to nouns 13
produced from nouns 101,
150, 207
subjunctive 121, 161
tense 230–1, 260, 267,
268–9, 281–4
in titles 288–9
see also participles
- VERY 182
VIABLE 156–7
vide infra 305
VIEWPOINT/view 157–8
VIRTUALLY 158
(BY) VIRTUE OF 211
VISUALIZE 158–9
vital
volunteers 150, 194
VOMITING 41, 79
see also NAUSEOUS/
NAUSEATED
- wait 274
warning statements 216–17
WAS NOTED 117, 201, 222
Watson, James 25–6, 244
way (of working) 129, 149
what 245
What's in a name?
WHEREBY 219–20
WHICH 218
by which 219–20
commas before 218,
243–5
Whose life is it anyway? (Clark,
Brian) 292
window 83
wise (prudent) 137
-WISE 159
with 155, 173–4, 211
or another preposition
206–10

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-62815-1 - Medical Writing: A Prescription for Clarity: A Self-Help Guide to Clearer
Medical English: Fourth Edition

Dr Neville W. Goodman and the Late Dr Martin B. Edwards

Index

[More information](#)

- starting a sentence 313–14
 WITH REGARD TO 177,
 205–4, 213–14
 WITH RESPECT TO 177,
 205–4, 214
 word processors 14, **29–31**
 words
 to avoid in titles 181–2, **191,**
 289–90
 changing meanings 2
 changing popularity 20–4
 choice 4–5, 28, **46–159**
- errors made by EAL authors
 14–16, 258–71
 foreign 139, **305–6**
 imprecise **183–99**
 long or short? 4, 28, 184
 missing **238–9, 245, 314**
 order within a sentence
 232–8, 268, 271–2,
 310–12
 repetition **13, 25–6**
 superfluous 13, **160–82, 250**
see also spelling
- workers **60**
 worse than **152**
 worsen **55**
 worthwhile 111
 X-ray 304
- YOUNG **198–9, 252–3**
 -ys/-yz spellings 352–2
 see also -ISE/-IZE/-
 ISATION/-IZATION
- zero/O blood group 37