

Online Writer's Resources

General Writing Resources - Style and Punctuation Guides

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Writing Center Guide

(www.rpi.edu/dept/llc/writecenter/web/handouts.html)

Hyperlinked style and punctuation guide. Extensive with plenty of examples. Does not offer advice about the writing process or about specific types of writing. Free "hand-outs." Citation styles, such as APA and MLA are discussed.

Technical Writing Style Manual (www.rbs0.com/tw.htm)

Technical writing style manuals and resources. Links to Strunk and White, discussions about grammar rules, more.

Bartleby's (www.bartleby.com)

This site has an online dictionary and thesaurus, as well as other reference material. Provides links to purchase some reference material; others are provided free online. Free e-mail if you're looking for a new e-mail program.

www.refdesk.com/index.html

An amazing variety of links to research topics. A short list: phases of the moon, today in history, journalists' tools, postal resources, quotations, aviation, world religions, etc. Each topic links to web sites relating to that topic. (Example: world religion links to 111 religion sites from the Baha'i faith to Zen.)

iTools.com

Free online research aids with access to dictionaries, encyclopedia, topic guides, biographies, and more

Dictionaries/Thesauri

The Newbury House Online Dictionary (<http://nhd.heinle.com>)

"This online dictionary contains over 40,000 entries and is based on the best selling Newbury House Dictionary of American English."

AllWords (www.allwords.com)

This one gives definitions, translates words into five different languages, and lets you listen to word pronunciation.

Cambridge International Dictionaries Online (<http://dictionary.cambridge.org>)

Allows you to search four different online dictionaries, including the Cambridge International Dictionary of English (jolly good!), the Cambridge Dictionary of American English (dude!), Cambridge International Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs (back off!), and the Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms (about time!).



Web of Online Dictionaries (www.yourdictionary.com)

Includes an index of hundreds of online dictionaries in a variety of languages. Subscription required.

Oxford English Dictionary (www.oed.com)

The online version of the seminal dictionary of the English language. Registration required.

Wordsmyth (www.wordsmyth.net)

American English dictionary and thesaurus

Merriam-Webster Online (www.m-w.com/home.htm)

Large site by Merriam-Webster that features a dictionary and thesaurus

WordNet (www.cogsci.princeton.edu/~wn)

An "online lexical reference system whose design is inspired by current psycholinguistic theories of human lexical memory."

Thesaurus.com and Dictionary.com

Related sites that include links to writers' resources, games, word information, and more

Encyclopedias

Britannica.com

The online version of Encyclopedia Britannica

Encyclopedia.com

More than 14,000 articles searchable by keyword or phrase

Encarta Encyclopedia (encarta.msn.com)

Microsoft's online encyclopedia with over 16,000 free articles and over 42,000 with a subscription

The Encyclopedia Mythica (www.pantheon.org/mythica)

An online encyclopedia for mythology, legend, and folklore

Quotations

Quotations Home Page (www.geocities.com/~spanoudi/quote.html)

"The collections presented here contain thousands of quotations, old and new, familiar and obscure, humorous and pompous, ironic and maybe even a little profound."

Quoteland.com

"Find quotations on anything; identify quotations by anyone."

The Quotations Page (www.starlingtech.com/quotes/index.html)

"This page was originally developed as a catalog of quotation resources on the Internet; it has since evolved into a large-scale quotation site with many original resources." Includes a quote search.

QuoteWorld.org

Over 13,000 quotes, in association with Amazon.com.

The Quotation Guide (life.bio.sunysb.edu/ee/msr/quote.html)

Personal quote page conveniently divided into topics.

The Quotations Archive (www.aphids.com/quotes/index.shtml)

"The Quotations Archive is a comprehensive, searchable database of general purpose quotations. Visitors to the website can browse through quotations by subject, alphabetically by author, or they can use the search engine to generate a listing of quotations containing selected keywords or by a certain author."

Writing Help/References

The Elements of Style (www.bartleby.com/141/index.html)

Strunk & White's classic. Fear it.

Online English Grammar (www.edunet.com/english/grammar/index.cfm)

A guide that's searchable through a table of contents.

Guide to Grammar and Style (adromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Writing)

Advice on grammar and style from Jack Lynch, an English professor at Rutgers University.

Learn to Write (pipeline.com/~sfauthor/learn.html)

Links and reviews of sites, books, and magazines that help authors write.

Variety in Sentence Structure (jade.ccccd.edu/cobb/sentences.html)

Some notes on spicing up your writing by playing with sentence lengths and structure.

WebGrammar (www.webgrammar.com)

A site devoted to entirely to grammar.