SENTENCE WRITING SIMPLIFIED

اهر انتشارات پایه دانش چاپ سلمان قارسی ایراژه ه ۲۰۰۰ جلد نویت چاپ اولی : ۱۳۸۶ تلفن در کزیخش تهران ۱۹۲۲ - ۹۲۲ - ۹۲۲ HarperCollins Simplified Series

SENTENCE WRITING SIMPLIFIED

Norwood Selby

Surry Community College



Senior Editor: Jane Kinney

Developmental Editor: Leslie Taggart
Project Editor: Robert Ginsberg
Design Supervisor: Lucy Krikorian
Cover Design: Teresa J. Delgado
Cover Illustration: Marc Rosenthal
Production/Administrator: Paula Keller
Compositor: Graphic Sciences Corporation

Printer and Binder: R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company

Cover Printer: The Lehigh Press, Inc.

Sentence Writing Simplified Copyright © 1992 by T. Norwood Selby

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information address HarperCollins College Publishers, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022.

ISBN 0-06-501149-X

92 93 94 95 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Contents

Preface ix

PART I

GRAMMAR

1 • Verbs, Subjects, and Complements 3

Subjects and Predicates 3

Recognizing Verbs 4

Action Verbs/Linking Verbs/Auxiliary Verbs 4-6

Recognizing Subjects 7

Recognizing Compound Subjects and Compound Verbs 9

Recognizing Complements 10

Direct Objects/Indirect Objects/Predicate Nominatives/Predicate Adjectives 10-16

2 • Parts of Speech 118

Nouns 18

Pronouns 19

Adjectives 20

Verbs 21

Regular and Irregular Verbs/Tense/Voice/Person and Number/Mood 21-28

Adverbs 29

Prepositions 30

Conjunctions 32

Interjections 34

Identifying Parts of Speech 34

3 • Phroses 36

Prepositional Phrases 36 Verbal Phrases 37 Infinitives/Participles/Gerunds 37-41

4 • Clouses 44

Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses 44

More About Subordinate Clauses 47

Adjective Clauses/Adverb Clauses/Noun Clauses/
Misplaced Subordinate Clauses 48-53

5 • Sentence Types and Sentence Variety 54

Sentence Types 54
Simple Sentences/Compound Sentences/Complex
Sentences/Compound-Complex Sentences 54-58
Sentence Variety and Improvement 59
Sentence Variety/Parallelism/Avoiding Excessive Main
Clauses/Avoiding Excessive Subordination 59-65

6 • Agreement 66

Subject-Verb Agreement 66
Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement 75

7 • Identifying and Correcting Sentence Fragments 79

Types of Sentence Fragments 80
Phrases as Fragments 80
Subordinate Clauses as Fragments 81
Noun Followed by Modifier as Fragment/Fragments
Caused by Beginning Sentences with And or But 82
Correcting Sentence Fragments 83

8 • Identifying and Correcting Fused Sentences and Comma Splices 85

Fused Sentences 85 Comma Splices 86 Conjunctive Adverbs and Transitional Phrases 87
Ways to Correct Comma Splices and Fused Sentences 89

9 • Pronoun Case and Reference 92

Case 92
Nominative Case/Objective Case/Who/Whom/
Possessive Case 92-97
Reference 98

10 • Adjectives and Adverbs 102

Forming Adjectives and Adverbs 102
Using Adjectives and Adverbs Correctly
Degrees of Adjectives and Adverbs 105
Using Nouns as Modifiers 106

PART II

PUNCTUATION AND MECHANICS

11 • Commos 111

Main Clauses 112
Introductory Elements 112
Items in a Series and Coordinate Adjectives 114
Nonessential, Parenthetical, and Contrasting
Elements 115
Dates, Degrees, Place Names, and Long Numbers 118
Unnecessary Commas 119

12 • Semicolons 121

13 • Apostrophes 123

Possession 124 Omission 126 Plurals 127

14 • Quotation Marks 129

Direct Quotations 129
Titles 132
To Indicate Special Sense 133
With Other Marks of Punctuation 133

15 • Capitalization and Italics 135

Capitalization 135
Mechanics/Places, Times, and Kinds/Government and Social, Publishing and Personifying 135-141
Italics (Underlining) 143

16 • Abbreviations and Numbers 145

Abbreviations 145 Numbers 150

17 • Other Marks of Punctuation 155

Periods 155
Leaders and Ellipses 157
Brackets 159
Colons 160
Exclamation Points 162
Question Marks 162
Dashes 163
Parentheses 165
Slashes (Virgules) 167
Hyphens 168
Compound Words/Word Division 168-170

index 173

Preface

Sentence Writing Simplified is a brief yet thorough grammar and punctuation guide for students of composition, office personnel who need an easy-to-use desk reference, or anyone else who wants to ensure that his or her written communications are clear and correct.

Part I presents the basics of grammar—the parts of speech, phrases, and clauses—in a logical way. Definitions and explanations are repeated when necessary; readers who don't go through the text from front to back will not be lost. Four chapters, Chapters 5 through 8, show how to construct sentences that are not only grammatically correct but also are interesting and varied.

In Part II, punctuation is explained in clear-cut rules, offering a concise yet complete guide to all of the major punctuation rules of Standard English. Each of the most confusing marks of punctuation is covered in a separate chapter.

Clear explanations, numerous examples, and a comprehensive index make Sentence Writing Simplified an ideal reference to grammar and punctuation.

Norwood Selby