

## PRINCIPLES FOR GOOD RIGHTING

(Adapted from Professor Jay's rules for funny writers)

1. Verbs has to agree with their subjects.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. And (usually) avoid starting a sentence with a conjunction.
4. According to traditional rules, it is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. They're old hat.
6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.
7. Be more or less specific.
8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
9. Also, too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.
10. No sentence fragments.
11. A sentence should have one subject and verb, after that, it's probably a run-on.
12. Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used in formal writing.
13. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos unless they have gained mainstream English usage.
14. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
15. One should never generalize.
16. "Quoting, like smoking, is a dirty habit..." - *Author: Carolyn Gold Heilbrun*
17. Don't use no double negatives.
18. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
19. One-word sentences? Eliminate.
20. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
21. Be wary of commas, as they are, not always, necessary.
22. Never use a big word when a diminutive one will suffice.
23. Kill all exclamation points!!!!
24. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
25. Understatement is always the best way to put forth earthshaking ideas.
26. Use the apostrophe in it's proper place and omit it when its not needed.
27. If you've heard it a thousand times: Resist hyperbole; one writer in a million can use it correctly.
28. Puns are for children, not groan readers, even if they occasionally have a place in informal essays.
29. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
30. Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
31. Who needs rhetorical questions?
32. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.