

# Writing Style

1. Avoid intentional fragments. Right?
2. Avoid formulaic phrases in this day and age.

3. I have shown that you should delete references to your own writing.

4. Be sort of specific.

5. Don't define terms (where a specialized word is

used) using  
“reason is,”  
“because,”  
“where,” or  
“when.”

**6.** Avoid using  
very interesting,  
nice words that

contribute little to  
a sentence.

7. Prepositions are  
not good to end  
sentences with.

8. It is a mistake to  
ever split an  
infinitive.

**9.** But do not start a sentence with a coordinating conjunction.

**10.** Avoid using clichés like a bad hair day.

**11. Always, avoid attention-getting alliteration.**

**12. Parenthetical remarks should (most always) be avoided.**

13. Also, never,  
never repeat words  
or phrases very,  
very much, too.

14. Use words only  
as they are defined,  
no matter how  
awesome they are.

**15.** Even if a metaphor hits the spot, it can be over-played.

**16.** Resist exaggeration; it only works once in a million years.



17. Writers should always avoid generalizations.

18. Avoid using big words when more utilitarian words would suffice.

**19. What use are rhetorical questions?**

**20. The passive voice is a form to be avoided, if it can be helped.**

**21. Never write no double negatives.**

22. There are good reasons to avoid starting every sentence with *There*.

23. Always, absolutely avoid overstating ideas.

**24. Keep pronoun references close to subjects in long sentences to make them clear.**