

Write101x

English Grammar and Style



Welcome to **WRITE101x**

WRITE101x aims to introduce you to key concepts and strategies related to grammar and style. Absorbing and applying these in your writing will help you to confidently respond to the unprecedented and accelerating demands for high levels of literacy that have arisen in the 21st century.

We'll present materials that cover grammatical principles, word usage, writing style, sentence and paragraph structure, and punctuation. We'll introduce you to some marvellous resources that we have annotated for your guidance. We'll show you video clips of interviews conducted with distinguished grammarians, challenge you with quizzes and writing activities that will give you strategies to help you to build skills that will enhance the quality of your writing, and invite you to participate in discussions and assess the work of your peers.

The **Write101x** Team

Roslyn Petelin

Associate Professor Roslyn Petelin is the course director of WRITE101x. She established and teaches in the award-winning postgraduate program in Writing, Editing, and Publishing at The University of Queensland. She has also taught Writing and Speech Communication in the School of Communication at the Queensland University of Technology and in the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University (New York, USA). She is an Adjunct Associate Professor in Corporate Communication at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She edited the Australian Journal of Communication from 1988–2013, is a past President and Honorary Life Member of the Australian & New Zealand Communication Association, has co-authored two books, *The Professional Writing Guide: Writing Well and Knowing Why* (Allen & Unwin, with Marsha Durham) and *Professional Communication: Principles and Applications* (Pearson, with Peter Putnis), and recently published *How Writing Works: A Field Guide to Effective Writing* (Allen & Unwin).

Amber Gwynne

Amber Gwynne is a researcher, writer, and editor who regularly collaborates with other writers, students, and small businesses. With a background in linguistics and a Master's degree in Writing, Editing, and Publishing, she brings a unique expertise to working with words. Amber recently submitted a PhD relating to self-help books and reading and, in 2018, will be teaching within the writing program at The University of Queensland.

Megan Porter

Megan Porter likes poetry, science fiction, and learning new things, though not necessarily in that order. She has a Master of Arts from The University of Queensland in Writing, Editing, and Publishing, and now tutors the next crop of aspiring writers. Megan also edits on a freelance basis, enjoying the range of genres and styles that land in her inbox. Megan has had her poetry published in *How Writing Works: A Field Guide to Effective Writing* and local cultural magazines, and hopes to expand her portfolio in the near future.

About **Write101x**



8 Weekly Sessions

Each week is released across the globe on Monday morning Brisbane time. Watch the videos, do the exercises, take the quizzes, and join in the discussions when you have time.



4 Hours Per Week

Watching the videos each week will usually take you about 20 minutes, but will take longer if you do all the exercises and check out the extra readings and videos in our course resources.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, students will:

1. Reliably identify the roles and relationships of words in a sentence.
2. Demonstrate mastery of grammatical concepts and syntactical strategies and apply this knowledge to produce coherent, economical, and compelling writing.
3. Critique and edit their own and others' writing.

Course Schedule

<p>WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE</p>	<p>Navigation introduction and welcome from the team</p> <p>L1 What is grammar and why does it matter?</p> <p>L2 Writing standard English</p> <p>L3 Writing at the word level: How words work</p>
<p>WEEK 2 INTRODUCTION TO SENTENCES</p>	<p>L1 Parts of speech and word classes</p> <p>L2 Structure and patterns of sentences, phrases, and clauses</p> <p>L3 Common sentence-level problems</p>
<p>WEEK 3 INTRODUCTION TO VERBS</p>	<p>L1 Finite and non-finite verbs: Linking verbs, auxiliary verbs, transitive and intransitive verbs, verb phrases, phrasal verbs, verbal phrases, infinitives, participles, and gerunds</p> <p>L2 Tense, mood, and voice of verbs</p>
<p>WEEK 4 INTRODUCTION TO NOUNS AND PRONOUNS *STYLE-GUIDE ENTRY 1 ASSIGNED</p>	<p>L1 Form and function of nouns: Noun strings and nominalisations</p> <p>L2 Form and function of pronouns</p> <p>L3 Problems with pronouns</p>
<p>WEEK 5 INTRODUCTION TO ADJECTIVES AND DETERMINERS *STYLE-GUIDE ENTRY 1 DUE</p>	<p>L1 Adjectives: Form, function, use, The 'Royal Order of Adjectives', and degrees of comparison</p> <p>L2 Adjectival sequencing, punctuation, and determiners</p>
<p>WEEK 6 INTRODUCTION TO ADVERBS AND CONJUNCTIONS</p>	<p>L1 Adverbs: Form, function, degrees of comparison, placement of adverbs, intensifiers, and weasels</p> <p>L2 Conjunctions: Coordinating and subordinating, conjunctive adverbs</p>
<p>WEEK 7 INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS AND PARAGRAPHS *STYLE-GUIDE ENTRY 2 ASSIGNED</p>	<p>L1 How prepositions function, problems with prepositions</p> <p>L2 Paragraphing: Paragraph development and cohesive ties</p>
<p>WEEK 8 INTRODUCTION TO PUNCTUATION *STYLE-GUIDE ENTRY 2 DUE</p>	<p>L1 The main punctuation marks and punctuation problems</p> <p>L2 Other punctuation marks</p>



Course Videos

Each week will contain a number of short video lectures. These videos can be watched at slow or fast speed, in full screen or high definition, and with or without closed captioning. Additionally, downloadable transcripts and PowerPoint slides are provided for each lecture.

If you'd like to download videos to watch later on your mobile device, share with your friends, or present to your class, go right ahead! All of our content is available for use under a Creative Commons Attribution - ShareAlike License.



Discussion Forums

Each week, we encourage you to engage with others in the class on the discussion forums about issues, themes and arguments presented. Our moderators will provide you with a starting point for those conversations by posing questions related to the week's content, but feel free to go beyond those topics and dig deeper.

Some academic ground rules: don't copy-paste from others (plagiarise), be respectful of others' views, help each other, engage with each other meaningfully, and have fun.



Grading

This course has two compulsory writing assignments that are worth 20% of the overall grade. The instructions, criteria, due dates, and grading rubric are available in the left navigation bar throughout the course. There are also eight end-of-week quizzes that are worth 80% of the overall grade. Students have until the end of the course to submit these for grading. In addition, writing activities and discussion topics are included throughout the course, but do not count towards the overall grade.