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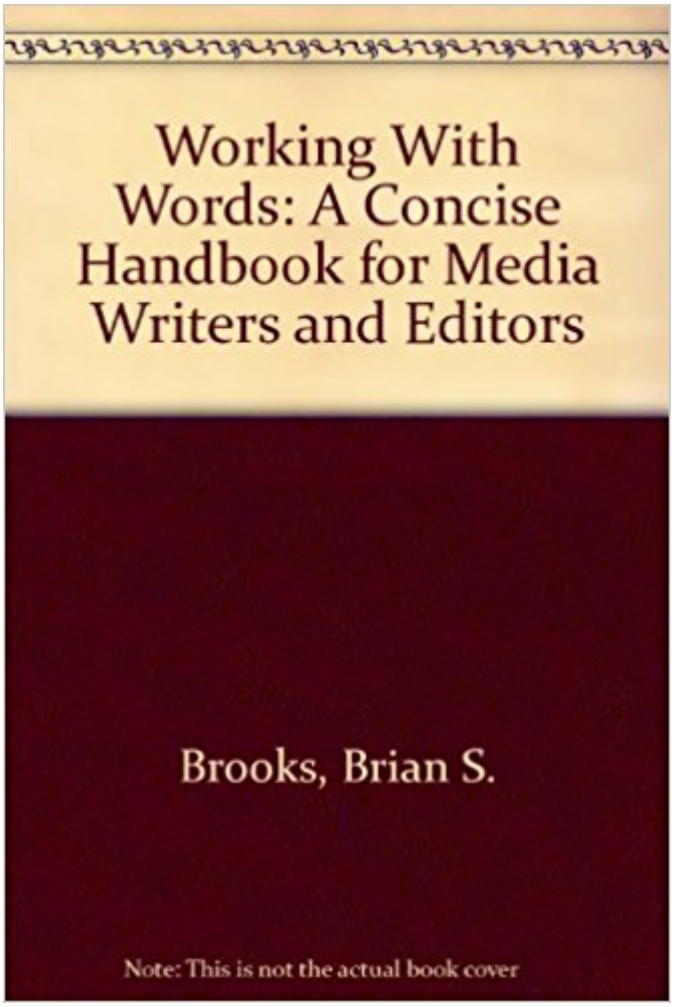
Working With Words: A Concise Handbook For Media Writers And Editors



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Synopsis

Written for journalists by journalists, Working with Words provides the examples, exercises, and rhetorical advice the Associated Press Stylebook does not. The ideal reference for journalism students, the sixth edition focuses on improving grammar and style by offering more grammar help, more on ethics, and more on writing for online media. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Customer Reviews

BRIAN S. BROOKS is a professor and chairman of the editorial department at the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He is coauthor ofNews Reporting and Writing, Eighth Edition (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2005), Telling the Story, Second Edition (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2004), and The Art of Editing, Eighth Edition (2005). JAMES L. PINSON has taught journalism for more than 15 years -- at the Missouri School of Journalism and at Eastern Michigan University -- and has addressed various press groups on the subjects of grammar and other editing skills. He has also worked for newspapers in Colorado, Missouri and Michigan, and has a doctorate in journalism and a master’s in creative writing.JEAN GADDY WILSON is managing partner for media with Weiner, Edrich, Brown, Inc., a strategic trends analysis firm in New York City which pioneered futures planning using its trademarked STEP (Strategic Trends Evaluation Process). As an adjunct faculty member at the Missouri School of Journalism, she founded three national journalism organizations: New Directions for News; Journalism and Women’s Symposium; and the National Women and

Media Collection. She was a founding member of the Council of Presidents, whose members lead the editorial organizations in newspapers, and of the International Women's Media Foundation. She has served as a Pulitzer Prize Nominating Juror for Journalism, and currently serves on the IBM Advisory Board and IBM Mobile Human-Centric Computing Advisory Board. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book has been such an asset to me in all forms of writing. I feel much more confident in my ability to communicate more clearly through my writing.

It is a good book, but it wasn't what other reviewers had built it up to be. Some items in the text are rather simple. Yet it is a good book that I plan to use.

In many ways, "Working with Words" differs little from other grammar books. It accomplishes its task very well, though. A highlight of this book has to be its organization. The book is divided into 11 chapters and 4 appendixes. All the basics are covered: sentences, phrases and clauses; the parts of speech; punctuation, etc. Other sections cover tight writing, muddled language and "sexism, racism and other '-isms.'"But the absolute best parts of this book are the lists and appendixes. "What to Tighten A-Z" offers a quick guide to getting rid of phrases that are wordy, redundant or cliche. "Confused words" helps you decide whether to use continual or continuous, fortuitous or fortunate among many others. Sections on common mistakes and frequently misspelled words also help you avoid errors. But my favorite section has to be the one called "One word, two words or hyphenated?" It is a fabulously quick and easy reference.

This book always with me in addition to my AP Stylebook. It's wonderfully helpful in all areas of writing, including glossaries of confused words, hyphenation as a spelling problem, and a glossary of common redundancies. They even have a section on American versus British spelling. I don't understand how someone couldn't find helpful information in this book, it tells you very plainly what is right and wrong. (I'm looking two examples in the book right now, one labeled RIGHT, one labeled WRONG) How anyone would be confused with the information is beyond me. This is a must have resource.

I have a tore up version of this book from my college days! It's the 1993 version, but I use it frequently. This book is a great tool on grammar that explains things simplisticly. Whether you are

looking for answers on where to put an apostrophe or whether a comma goes inside or outside of quotation marks, this book will tell you in simple terms. Love it!!

Cover is different. Appears to be the same content however. Quality is as described.

I haven’t found a better one yet. Not that you’d want to curl up with it, or anything. The most useful part is the chapter on "-isms" by Jean Gaddy Wilson.Imagine my suprise as a college journalism student to discover the racist term "spearchucker" was NOT considered OK for publication. Really? It said right there in the "S" section: "Do not use." And you know what? That stuck with me. I’ve written thousands of articles and have never used it once. But it ain’t just racism that’s covered. Get ready to learn how to control your inherent ageism, you durn kids. "Well-preserved," for instance, is an "offensive phrase applied to women and senior citizens; avoid." Also, "without rhythm," is a stereotype that implies whites can’t dance, which angers me, a white man who can really cut a rug. On the other hand, "with rhythm" is also defined as an offensive stereotype for African-Americans, implying they are able to dance, and to dance well. This leaves me confused. Is it good or bad to have rhythm? Should we just avoid the whole topic of rhythm? I suppose so.Other specified terms to avoid: buxom, foxy, fragile, full-figured, wetbacks, wench, white bread, wheat bread (just kidding, you can use wheat bread) trollop, tart, loose woman, hussy, wop, dago, working man, workmen’s comp.Yep, you read it right. A newspaper lede that reads, "ROME--The Wop president yesterday sacked four top cabinet officials as his government came under increasing attack for blah blah blah....." just doesn’t cut it in the professional world of journalism.Thanks to this fine book, there will no longer be any confusion about that.(This text refers to the 1993 ed.)

Appears to be a good exercise book, but "big problem" you have no idea if you are right or wrong. No answer list is provided. buyer beware.

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