

And here we are, back at the beginning again. This was my very first journal entry for the class, and it might be the one on which I spent the most time.

Things to Avoid When Writing Good

- More than one punctuation mark at the end of a sentence is too much!!
- Ending a sentence with a preposition never sounds as good as you think it.
- Sentences that are written in passive voice have been known to cause issues with verifying validity.
- "When quoting someone or using dialog, ALWAYS specify who is speaking," he said.
- Clichés are to be avoided like the plague.
- Overly using adverbs will subtly, quickly, and completely discount your point entirely.
- The Oxford comma: use them, love them and never forget them.
- Keep it simple; if you can say the same thing with less words, less punctuation, or a simpler format -i.e. easier to read-: do so.
- Aint no place in composition for slang or shorthand.
- Try not to give too superfluous an explanation, meaning you shouldn't over-do your examples or treat your reader condescendingly (talking down to them, basically).
- You're pronouns, possessives, plural, and numbers should always matches there context.
- Never start or end a sentence with and.
- And finally, know your audience!

Sincerely, your loving nephew,

Jay