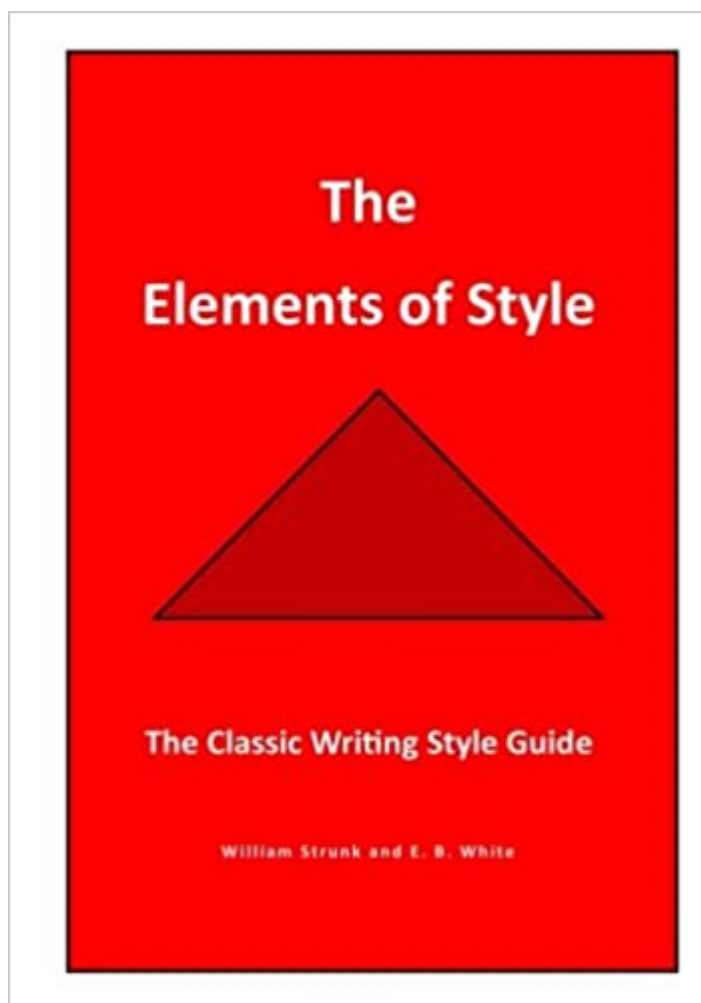


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# The Elements Of Style: The Classic Writing Style Guide



## Synopsis

The Elements of Style by William Strunk and E. B. White - The Classic Writing Style Guide - This book aims to give in brief space the principal requirements of plain English style. It aims to lighten the task of instructor and student by concentrating attention (in Chapters II and III) on a few essentials, the rules of usage and principles of composition most commonly violated. In accordance with this plan it lays down three rules for the use of the comma, instead of a score or more, and one for the use of the semicolon, in the belief that these four rules provide for all the internal punctuation that is required by nineteen sentences out of twenty. Similarly, it gives in Chapter III only those principles of the paragraph and the sentence which are of the widest application. The book thus covers only a small portion of the field of English style. The experience of its writer has been that once past the essentials, students profit most by individual instruction based on the problems of their own work, and that each instructor has his own body of theory, which he may prefer to that offered by any textbook. The Elements of Style is a prescriptive American English writing style guide in numerous editions. The original was composed by William Strunk Jr., in 1918, and published by Harcourt, in 1920, comprising eight "elementary rules of usage", ten "elementary principles of composition", "a few matters of form", a list of 49 "words and expressions commonly misused", and a list of 57 "words often misspelled". E. B. White greatly enlarged and revised the book for publication by Macmillan in 1959. That was the first edition of the so-called "Strunk & White", which Time named in 2011 one of the 100 best and most influential books written in English since 1923.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

William Strunk and E. B. White

This is one of the best tools that a person who writes can purchase. This is the same book that my English teachers suggested that we purchase to write all our papers for high school and college. I use it in my novels and in my screenplay work to check my writing. I am so happy that I had one as a replacement for the one I had a while back. This is a must-have for all writers!

Brevity of words delivers impact. The discovery of expression in the brevity of words is a passion for the wordsmith. "Elements of Style" is a deep dive into brevity in the fewest words. Creating the 'perfect' sentence and paragraph is my own obsessive-compulsive disorder. Strunk & White is a welcomed partner in my pursuit. The power of the well-engineered sentence and paragraph stands out and is noticed as a construct from out of the writing norm. Strunk & White has a timeless depth of character rather like the "Art of War". I find myself re-visiting this thin reference time and again. Divining just the right element and style to deliver the desired written outcome takes practice and experimentation. Strunk & White provides the essential companion. It may, in fact, be all you need to up your expression quotient. 5-stars 'I luv it!'

I've read two different editions of this book - I borrowed the 6th? 7th? edition (the one with the blue cover that is expanded) and I own the 3rd edition (which is not expanded). Let me tell you, this slim book packs a powerful punch. I've always struggled with being concise in my writing, and this book is THE book to help you maximize your writing. It should be required in high schools everywhere. Back when I worked for a newspaper, one of my editors was trying to get a review of mine on a particular page, which meant he needed to edit a little bit out ... he came back and told me - I couldn't edit your review. Every word was essential. - YES. Thank you, Strunk & White.

This small book is full of grammatical and stylistic information that will help anyone become a better writer. I have used it with my own written work, and have recommended it to students who want to improve their writing. It is NOT a grammar textbook, rather it is a style manual that discusses some grammar.

I bought this for a family member who is writing a book. I'm hoping it really helps. She says there are a lot of good points and tips. If you can learn this stuff up front it helps when you have to do less editing later. This is a small pamphlet like book so the information is not overwhelming.

It was free, so I got it. I bought this book years ago when I attended the University of NH. It was the standard grammar book of it's day. Now, Mignon Fogarty (Grammar Girl) presents grammar in a much easier form to learn. Strunk is still useable, just harder to use.

If you are a writer and need some quick referencing for your style and answered questions about how to use elements of structure in the literary world, this book is perfect. I know this little book has been around for a very long time. It is not used in colleges but you can bet that most English professors have an edition of this book on their shelves somewhere. It's an important little book written by professors. Add it to your collection.

I think this would be an excellent little guide for high school and college age students. It had some solid grammatical and general (structural) advice which will serve most circumstances a student will find themselves in. (obviously, I've still got a little work to do)

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