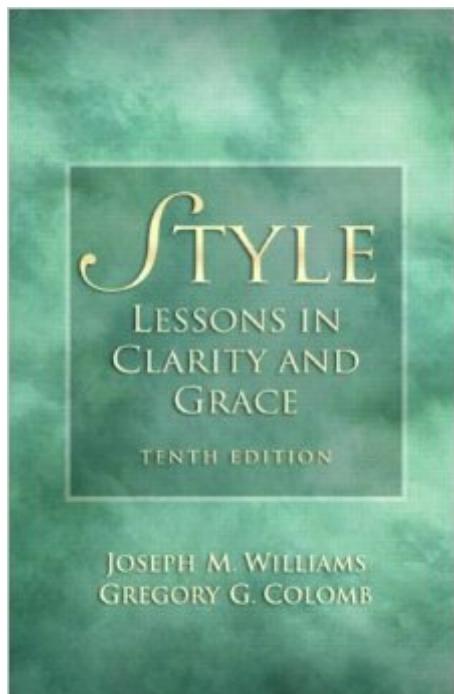


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Style: Lessons In Clarity And Grace (10th Edition)



Synopsis

Engaging and direct, Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace is the guidebook for anyone who wants to write well. Engaging and direct, Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace is the guidebook for anyone who wants to write well.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Reviewed by C.J.Singh Even a brief browsing of Joseph Williams's *STYLE: LESSONS IN CLARITY AND GRACE*, would persuade most readers that it makes the much touted Strunk & White's "The Elements of Style" look, well, elementary. Simplistic. If the seductively slender "Elements" -- easily read in a day, no exercises to do -- could deliver its claim, by the end of the day there'd be millions of excellent writers. Besides, Williams shows how Strunk & White flout their own advice to "omit unnecessary words": he edits their 199-word paragraph to just 51 words (Williams, pp. 126-28). Williams shows grace in conceding that "in boiling down that original paragraph to a quarter of its original length, I've bleached out its garrulous charm." In the preface, Williams urges the reader to "go slowly" as it's "not an amiable essay to read in a sitting or two.... Do the exercises, edit someone else's writing, then some of your own written a few weeks ago, then something you wrote that day." I often assigned *STYLE* as the main textbook in Advanced Editorial Workshop, a ten-week course, I taught at the University of California. Each term, students rated the book as excellent. (The prerequisite to the workshop was a review course, with the main textbook "The Harbrace College Handbook." Although *STYLE* includes a 32-page appendix summarizing grammar and punctuation rules, most readers would be well-advised to review a standard college handbook, such as the

Harbrace or Bedford. See my review of Bedford, seventh edition on .) has published numerous reviews of STYLE's various editions. The one-star reviews criticize the author's own writing in the book as lacking grace.

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