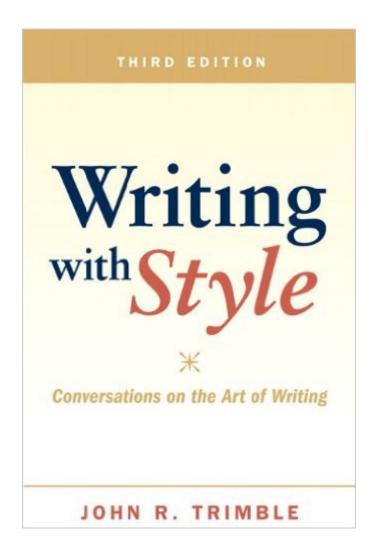
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Writing With Style: Conversations On The Art Of Writing (3rd Edition)





Synopsis

This bestselling brief text is for anyone who needs tips to improve writing. Writing with Style is storehouse of practical writing tipsâ "written in a lively, conversational style. This text provides insight into: how to generate interesting ideas and get them down on paper; how to write a critical analysis; how to write a crisp opener; how to invigorate a dull style; how to punctuate with confidence; how to handle various conventionsâ "and much more.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (109 customer reviews)

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Guides > Writing > Fiction

Customer Reviews

This is a fine book, and I'm surprised it's not better known. More useful than Strunk & White, less intimidating than Joseph Williams, it is the single best book for someone who is looking to improve their writing beyond spelling and grammar. With clear, succinct, and witty chapters on subjects which other books go overboard on -- beginnings, middles, and ends; diction; punctuation; revising and proofreading -- there is no better introduction to the art (beyond the craft) of writing. There are useful tips on usage and superstitions ("never use contractions", "never split an infinitive", etc.) as well as a twenty-five-page collection of quotes from writers about writing. Many of the points which Trimble considers most important are highlighted in boxes separate from the text, so if you're in a hurry and looking for the meat of a chapter, it's easy to find. This is not a perfect book, though, an it's not intended to be encyclopedic, so you won't find answers to all your questions. The chapter on writing a critical analysis is tantalizingly useless and seems like an afterthought (although it was included in the first edition). The "Quoting" chapter is useful if you're not doing academic writing, but

the book seems aimed at an academic audience, and such audiences mostly need to know the details of citing sources through the MLA, APA, or Chicago styles. (On the other hand, Trimble has some interesting tips on using quotes in your writing.) If you're an experienced writer, you won't find anything new here. That's okay, though. Few of the ideas Trimble explores have ever been stated more clearly or gracefully.

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