

## Chem 360 lecture 3c

Style and concise writing

## Reminders

- \* Turn in the homework due:  
WLC Ex. 2.5
- \* Monday Apr. 19 meeting is at the library  
Lec 2 (B526)  
Wednesday Apr. 21 is at library  
Lec 1 (1033a)
- \* Turn in Data base search next week

### LIBRARY ELECTRONIC CLASSROOM #2 (LEC 2) LIBRARY NORTH B 526 (Monday)



### LIBRARY ELECTRONIC CLASSROOM #1 (LEC 1) LIBRARY NORTH 1033A (Wednesday)

- Meet at the room on the far side (right) as you walk in.
- Prepare to do data base search
- The data base search is due on this day
- Topic of the data base search is your chosen topic.

### Database Search Exercise (due Wednesday)

- The database search is for the topic you signed up for.
- Make sure that your list of references directly relates to your chosen topic /not just tangentially relates to it.
- List your journal articles, reviews and other sources in ACS reference format

From the last group exercise  
TGIF means "Thank God Its Friday".  
TGIF means "Thank God **It's** Friday".  
Its your turn. You better do it now!  
**It's** your turn. **You'd** better do it now!  
Good desireable food at it's best  
Good **desirable** food at **its** best  
The dog chases its ball  
The dog chases its ball  
The principle conclusion of this study ...  
The **principal** conclusion of this study ...

From the last group exercise

Everyone all ready know that my favorite science class is astrology.

Everyone **already knows** that my favorite science class is **astronomy**.

I would advice you to devise a new plan.

I would **advise** you to **devise** a new plan.

The affect of temperature is to altar the results.

The **effect** of temperature is to **alter** the results.

This new equipment is very accurate afterall -it always gives the same readings.

This new equipment is very **precise after all** -it always gives the same readings.

From the last group exercise

The long cue in front of the store became much shorter toward noon time.

The long **queue** in front of the store became much shorter toward(s) **noontime**.

You should of sealed the envelop before mailing it.

You should **have** sealed the **envelope** before mailing it.

This class improves my writing!

This class improves my **writing!**

## Concise Writing

- Rule 1: Eliminate unnecessary words including references to scientists
- Rule 2: Replace wordy phrases with more concise phrases
- Rule 3: Use parentheses to report related information

## Use of nominalizations

Nominalizations = nouns which are formed from other parts of speech (verbs, adjectives)

E.g. intensity - from intense (adjective)

How intense a signal is relative to another permits one to compare just how strongly the oxides interact with one another. (21 words)

The relative signal intensity permits a strength comparison of oxide-oxide interaction. (12 words)

## Exercise: make the following more concise

- Bothered by allergies, a condition that made them sneeze, some of the preschool children had sinus troubles that caused them to miss several days in nursery school this spring.
- Allergies kept some preschool children from nursery school several days this spring.
- The nursery school teacher education training sessions involve active interfacing with preschool children of the appropriate age as well as intensive peer interaction in the form of role playing.
- Nursery school teacher training involves interaction with preschool children and role playing with peers.
- We created a calcium carbonate solution by using pure calcium carbonate powder that was heated, dried and subsequently dissolved in distilled water to make a standard. (26 words)
- A pure calcium carbonate aqueous standard solution was prepared. (9)

## Exercise: Eliminate unnecessary words

- Phenolphthalein and methyl orange were used for this titration as indicators to detect where the equivalence points of the solutions were. (21 words)
- Phenolphthalein and methyl orange were used as indicators for this titration. (11 words)
- The average composition of the unknown was found to have an average value of unknown that was 44.6% and a standard deviation of  $\pm 0.2\%$ . (24 wds)
- The unknown composition was 44.6% $\pm 0.2\%$ . ( $\approx 6$  words)
- After the unknown ore was heated, the remaining ore that had become drier was reweighed again. (16 words)
- After (the unknown ore was heated) heating, the (remaining ore that had become drier )dried ore was reweighed (again). (7 words)

### Exercise: Use parentheses when appropriate.

- The titrations that used the indicator that was more preferable, namely phenolphthalein, gave us results that were clearer.
- Titrations using the preferred indicator (phenolphthalein) gave clearer results.
- The HCl standard solution was prepared using a concentrated HCl bottle whose concentration was 12.8 M and commercially supplied from Advanced Chemical Systems.
- Standard HCl was prepared from a stock HCl (Advanced Chemical Systems, 12.8 M).

### Exercise: reducing bloated sentences

- The experiment being performed is the measurement of water hardness through EDTA titration.
- EDTA titration was used to measure water hardness.

### Notes for improving writing

- a) Don't equate wordiness with expertise
- b) Don't put more words simply to make a paper longer
- c) It's easier to read a concise article –suggests a more organized mind. Inspires more confidence .
- d) Wordy language tends to confuse not clarify the point you want to make.

### Group Exercise: same groups are before.

Please do as a group:  
 Rewrite a given paragraph  
 Exercise 2.3  
 Exercise 2.4  
 Optional : Exercise 2.6  
 and Exercise 2.8