

Recommended resources on grammar, punctuation, and usage:

- Grammar Girl: <https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl/>
- Purdue OWL: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/grammar/
- Legible by Wayne Schiess: <https://sites.utexas.edu/legalwriting/>
- *Fine Points for Legal Writing* or other books by Wayne Schiess
- *The Redbook: A Manual on Legal Style* by Bryan Garner
- *Grammatically Correct* by Anne Stillman

Recommended resources on style:¹

- *The Elements of Style* by Strunk & White: <https://www.amazon.com/Elements-Style-Fourth-William-Strunk/dp/020530902X>
- *Writing with Style* by Trimble: <https://www.amazon.com/Writing-Style-Conversations-Art-3rd/dp/0205028802>
- *The Elements of Legal Style* by Garner: <https://www.amazon.com/Elements-Legal-Style-Bryan-Garner/dp/0195141628>
- *Legal Writing in Plain English* by Garner: <https://www.amazon.com/Legal-Writing-Plain-English-Second/dp/0226283933>
 - Exercises also available here: <https://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/garner/>
- *The Lawyer's Guide to Writing Well* by Goldstein and Lieberman,: <https://www.amazon.com/Lawyers-Guide-Writing-Well/dp/0520288432>
- *Point Made* by Guberman,: <https://www.amazon.com/Point-Made-Write-Nations-Advocates/dp/0199943850>
- *Lifting the Fog of Legalese: Essays on Plain Language* by Kimble: <https://www.amazon.com/Lifting-Fog-Legalese-Essays-Language/dp/1594602123>
- *The Winning Brief* by Garner: https://www.amazon.com/Winning-Brief-Persuasive-Briefing-Appellate/dp/0199378355/ref=sr_1_1?crid=A9WEO2TUUZ8Q&keywords=garner+the+winning+brief&qid=1676306877&s=books&sprefix=garner+the+winning+brief%2Cstripbooks%2C79&sr=1-1&ufe=app_do%3Aamzn1.fos.006c50ae-5d4c-4777-9bc0-4513d670b6bc
- *Plain English for Lawyers* by Wydick: https://www.amazon.com/Plain-English-Lawyers-Richard-Wydick/dp/153100699X/ref=sr_1_1?crid=2BHP4NQPV09PN&keywords=plain+english+for+lawyers+wydick&qid=1676306857&s=books&sprefix=plain+english+for+lawyers+wydick%2Cstripbooks%2C78&sr=1-1
- *Style: The Basics of Clarity and Grace* by Williams: https://www.amazon.com/Style-Basics-Clarity-Grace-5th/dp/0321953304/ref=tmm_pap_swatc_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1676306706&sr=1-1

¹ Amazon links provided for identification. See also <https://bookshop.org/> and (for used) <https://www.thriftbooks.com/>.

- *Legal Writing Nerd: Be One* by Schiess: https://www.amazon.com/Legal-Writing-Nerd-Be-One-ebook/dp/B07L43872K?ref=ast_author_dp
- *Plain Legal Writing: Do it* by Schiess: https://www.amazon.com/Plain-Legal-Writing-Wayne-Schiess-ebook/dp/B07WF9RZHC?ref=ast_author_dp
- Blogs:
 - Garner's Law Prose blog: <https://www.lawprose.org/lawprose-blog/>
 - Guberman's Legal Writing Pro blog: <https://www.legalwritingpro.com/blog/>
 - Schiess's Legible blog: <https://sites.utexas.edu/legalwriting/>

Journals:

- The Scribes Journal of Legal Writing: <https://www.scribes.org/the-journal-of-legal-writing>
- Legal Communication & Rhetoric: <https://www.alwd.org/>
- Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute: <http://www.legalwritingjournal.org/>

Scholarly pieces & practical pointers on writing:

- *Fear and Loathing in Persuasive Writing: An Empirical Study of the Effects of the Negativity Bias* by Chestek, 14 Legal Comm. & Rhetoric 1 (2017): https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/faculty_articles/39/
- *Breaking Bad Briefs* by Brown, 41 J. Legal Prof. 259 (2016-2017): <https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/faculty/834/>
- *Don't Give your Adversaries Free Air Time* by Oettle, 1 Scribes J. Legal Writing 121: https://scribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Scribes_vol11_12_Best_of_Kenneth_Oettle.pdf
- *Responding to counterarguments: Learning from the Swing-Vote Cases* by Rogers Sharp, Legal Communication & Rhetoric: JALWD, Vol. 10, 2013: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2330540
- *A Contemporary Take on Strunk and White for Legal Writers* by Fischer, 15 Scribes J. Legal Writing 127: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2168446
- Reverse outlining article: <https://abaforlawstudents.com/2017/09/05/add-reverse-outlining-to-your-writing-toolbox/>
- *Tips for Writing Less Like a Lawyer* by Evans, 7 Scribes J. Legal Writing 147: https://scribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Scribes_vol7_17_Tips_for_Writing_Less_Like_A_Lawyer.pdf
- *Transition by Repetition: Take One Step Back to go Two Steps Forward* by Oettle, 11 Scribes J. Legal Writing 129: https://scribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Scribes_vol11_12_Best_of_Kenneth_Oettle.pdf
- *Choosing Topics for Topic Sentences* by Schiess: <https://law.utexas.edu/faculty/wschiess/legalwriting/2007/11/choosing-topics-for-topic-sentences.html>.

- *Keep related words together*, Strunk & White:
<https://faculty.washington.edu/heagerty/Courses/b572/public/StrunkWhite.pdf>
- Sentence Length: <https://www.lawprose.org/lawprose-lesson-269-average-sentence-length/>; <https://sites.utexas.edu/legalwriting/2014/08/25/manage-your-sentence-length/>
- *Place the emphatic words of a sentence at the end*, Strunk & White:
<https://faculty.washington.edu/heagerty/Courses/b572/public/StrunkWhite.pdf>
- Sentence bridging: : <http://sites.utexas.edu/legalwriting/2020/05/01/beginning-with-but/>; https://www.michbar.org/file/generalinfo/plainenglish/pdfs/03_oct.pdf; https://www.lwionline.org/sites/default/files/Sentence%20Length_SCHIESS.pdf
- *No Thanks: Six more words & phrases to avoid* by Guberman:
<https://www.legalwritingpro.com/blog/no-thanks-six-more-words-and-phrases-to-avoid/>
- *Madman, Architect, Carpenter, Judge: Roles and the Writing Process* by Flowers:
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/41962375?seq=1>

Research tools and practice guides:

- UCLA: <https://libguides.law.ucla.edu/c.php?g=183356&p=1208786>
- Georgetown: <https://guides.ll.georgetown.edu/c.php?g=273371&p=1824776>
- Cornell: https://guides.library.cornell.edu/immigration_law
- ILRC, AILA, CGRS, NIP, NILA, NIJC
- Local: ILRC, American Gateways, RAICES, TRLA, Catholic Charities, and more
- AILALink including Kurzban's via Texas State Law Library website:
<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/electronic-databases/remote>
- Unpublished BIA decisions
 - IRAC: <https://www.irac.net/unpublished/index-2/>
 - Website: <https://immigrationimpact.com/2022/02/15/board-of-immigration-appeals-unpublished-decisions/>.
- Immigration Review podcast: <https://www.kktplaw.com/immigration-review-podcast/>.
- Government sources: asylum officer training manuals, IJ Benchbook
- [Immigration Court Practice Manual](#)
- [BIA Practice Manual](#)
- Listserves
- Crim-imm:
 - Yearly crim-imm case updates: [Crim-Imm Case Law Updates 2024 | NIPNLG](#)
 - TX imm consequences of crimes:
<https://www.immigrationconsequencetx.org/>