

**Today:** Basics of scientific writing; words and word location. Textbook Ch. 1–3.

**Next class:** Basics contd.; sentences, paragraphs. Textbook Ch. 4–6.

Read assigned material, including problems, *before and after* class.

1. List the members of your group below. Underline your name.
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. For each of the writing errors noted below, provide an example that illustrates the error, and a revision that corrects the error. Use examples of your own; do not reuse or superficially modify the book's examples.
  - (a) Imprecise words.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (b) Overly complex words.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (c) Stereotyping.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (d) Redundancies.

3. Provide an original example analogous to Example 3-2 (p. 36) of the textbook. Explain it qualitatively using a table similar to the one in that example.

4. Focusing on word placement and flow, write (individually) a paragraph based on the following points on programming languages (from Chapter 1 of a classic<sup>1</sup>). Then ask a group member to critique it.
- Ways to instruct a computer.
  - Framework for organizing thoughts.
  - Combining simple ideas to form complex ones.
    - Primitive objects and operations.
    - Means of combination (building compound objects and operations).
    - Means of abstraction (manipulating the above as units).

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<sup>1</sup>Harold Abelson, Gerald Jay Sussman and Julie Sussman, *Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs*, 2nd edition (MIT Press, 1996).