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REFERENCE

The New Well-Tempered Sentence
A Punctuation Handbook for the Innocent, the Eager, and the Doomed
By Karen Elizabeth Gordon
Line drawings throughout
Paperback, 192 pages, $10.00
0-618-38201-1 Available 9/2003
Hardcover, 160 pages, $16.00
0-395-62883-0

For anyone who has despaired of opening a punctuation handbook (but whose sentences despair without one), Karen Elizabeth Gordon redeems punctuation from the perils of boredom. *The New Well-Tempered Sentence* is sure to entertain while teaching you everything you want to know about punctuation.

The Disheveled Dictionary
A Curious Caper Through Our Sumptuous Lexicon
By Karen Elizabeth Gordon
Line drawings throughout
Paperback, 192 pages, $10.00
0-618-38196-1 Available 9/2003
Hardcover, 176 pages, $15.00
0-395-68990-2

With her signature cache of illustrations, flamboyantly gothic examples, and hedonist’s approach to language, Gordon conjures a world of words, their definitions, and myriad uses. Gordon’s eccentric wit and unique insights take readers on a romp through the dictionary that expands all vocabularies.

www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com
The Essentials of MLA Style
A Guide to Documentation for Writers of Research Papers
By Joseph F. Trimmer
Paperback, 80 pages, $11.00
0-395-88316-4

In easy-to-use outline form, this little book is a handy distillation of the best-selling MLA Handbook, with all the information a student needs to format a typescript, list sources at the end of the paper, cite sources in the paper’s text, and avoid unintentional plagiarism. Up-to-date, with rules for citing such new media as CD-ROMs and online databases.

The Essential Writer’s Companion
A Concise Guide to Writing Effectively for School, Home, or Office
By the Editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries
Paperback, 272 pages, $5.95
0-395-71810-4

This book contains basic but crucial information on spelling, punctuation, word formation, style, grammar, and proofreading. Learn how to construct persuasive sentences and paragraphs to ensure that your written work is to the point and forceful throughout. Special sections on writing papers and reports and doing research in a library round out this indispensable volume for school, home, or office.

Line by Line
How to Edit Your Own Writing
By Claire Kehrwald Cook
Paperback, 240 pages, $12.00
0-395-39391-4

The essential guide for any writer who wants to improve his or her skills and gain a literary edge. With more than 700 examples of original and edited sentences, this book provides information about editing techniques, grammar, and usage.

www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com
Houghton Mifflin / Mariner Books

INSPIRATION

The Playful Way to Knowing Yourself
A Creative Workbook to Inspire Self-Discovery
By Roberta Allen
78 black-and-white halftones
Paperback, 224 pages, $14.00
0-618-26924-X

Employing verbal directives and visual cues, creativity coach Roberta Allen prompts you to look at yourself from angles and perspectives you would not otherwise see and provides creative motivation and guidance for the aspiring writer.

The Playful Way to Serious Writing
An Anything-Can-Happen Workbook to Inspire and Delight
By Roberta Allen
Black-and-white photographs and illustrations throughout
Paperback, 208 pages, $14.00
0-618-19729-X

The Playful Way to Serious Writing breaks down common writing barriers and frees the writer within. Roberta Allen has created a unique book of writing exercises packed with hundreds of verbal directives and visual cues. This engaging book will help writers develop an individual voice while offering the tools for creating dynamic narratives.

My Mentor
A Young Writer’s Friendship with William Maxwell
By Alec Wilkinson
Paperback, 192 pages, $12.00
0-618-38269-0 Available 9/2003
Hardcover, 192 pages, $22.00
0-618-12301-6

My Mentor is the story of a young man’s education at the hands of the renowned author and New Yorker fiction editor William Maxwell, whom the twenty-four-year-old Wilkinson approached in hopes of being taught to write. “The center of My Mentor will be instantly dog-eared by writers hoping to further hone their craft, as anecdotes give way to Maxwell’s brilliant, simple advice” (San Francisco Chronicle).

www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com
How to Be Your Own Literary Agent
An Insider's Guide to Getting Your Book Published
By Richard Curtis
Revised and Expanded Edition
Paperback, 336 pages, $14.00
0-618-38041-8  Available 11/2003

Richard Curtis provides a comprehensive, practical overview of the publishing process, from submissions to contracts to subsidiary rights to marketing, publicity, and trade secrets. Includes insider information on publishers, negotiating techniques, book design, e-books, and more.

Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular
By Rust Hills
Paperback, 208 pages, $13.00
0-618-08234-4

Rust Hills, longtime fiction editor at *Esquire*, offers this practical guide to writing short stories. The book explains all the essential techniques of fiction—from character and plot to flashback and foreshadowing—in a way that is both understandable and useful to the beginning writer.
Nine distinguished authors, including Ian Frazier, Annie Dillard, Alfred Kazin, Frank McCourt, Toni Morrison, Jill Ker Conway, and Henry Louis Gates, Jr., offer advice on writing a memoir.

Six prominent children’s authors, including Maurice Sendak, Rosemary Wells, and Jack Prelutsky, agree that to enter the worlds that children inhabit, you must possess the magic word—honesty.

“The dance,” in the case of Oliver’s brief and luminous book, refers to the interwoven pleasures of sound and sense to be found in some of the most celebrated and beautiful poems in the English language, from Shakespeare to Edna St. Vincent Millay to Robert Frost. With a poet’s ear and a poet’s grace of expression, Oliver clearly delineates what makes a metrical poem work, enabling you to intensify both the narratives and ideas of your poetry.