
THE DICTIONARY OF
CONCISE
WRITING

10,000

Alternatives to
Wordy Phrases

Robert Hartwell Fiske



Marion Street Press, Inc.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Fiske, Robert Hartwell.

The dictionary of concise writing : 10,000 alternatives to wordy phrases / by Robert Hartwell Fiske.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-9665176-6-0

1. English language--Rhetoric--Dictionaries. 2. English language--Usage--Dictionaries. 3. Report writing--Dictionaries. I. Title.

PE1464 .F57 2002

808'.042'03--dc21

2002008142

Cover design by Michelle Crisanti

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ISBN 0-9665176-6-0

Printed in U.S.A.

Printing 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Marion Street Press, Inc.

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Oak Park, IL 60304

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www.marionstreetpress.com

in the context of *in*. In the context of personal financial planning, the application of controls is even more important. *In personal financial planning, the application of controls is even more important.*

(somewhere) in the course of *during; for; in; over; throughout; when; while; with*. There were several suspects that came up in the course of our investigation, but Nancy Douglas was not one of them. *There were several suspects that came up during our investigation, but Nancy Douglas was not one of them.* ■ In the course of doing these exercises, students are introduced to almost all of their word processing program's features. *When doing these exercises, students are introduced to almost all of their word processing program's features.*

in the course of events (things; time) *at length; eventually; in due time; in the end; in time; later; one day; over the months (years); over time; someday; sometime; ultimately; with time; yet*. Continued observation of such men indicates that this is exactly what happens in many cases, and more evidence of this may show up in the course of time. *Continued observation of such men indicates that this is exactly what happens in many cases, and more evidence of this may show up over time.*

in the days (decades; months; weeks; years) before (prior to) *before*. In the days before LANs, if you wanted a coworker to add to a report you were writing, you copied the file to a disk and delivered it by hand. *Before LANs, if you wanted a coworker to add to a report you were writing, you copied the file to a disk and delivered it by hand.*

in the direction of (toward) *at; for; in; on; through; to; toward; with*. It appears it's headed in the direction of becoming a more conventional school that focuses on finances. *It appears it's headed toward becoming a more conventional school that focuses on finances.*

in the distant future *eventual; eventually; future; in many months (years); in time; in two (ten) months (years); later; much later; next month (year); one day; over time; someday; sometime; ultimately; with time; yet; delete*. In the distant future, the German people may regain unity through self-determination. *In time, the German people may regain unity through self-determination.*

in the distant past *before; earlier; formerly; long ago; long since; many months (years) ago; once; previously; delete*.

in the estimation of *assert; believe; claim; consider; contend; feel; hold; judge; maintain; regard; say; think; to; view; with*.