



Copy Editing & Proofreading for Academic Papers, News Stories, Business Manuals & Promotions, Blogs, Novels, Devotionals



Shelley Tuttle
Freelance Proofreader

Hello!

Have a writing project that you want cleared of errors? Need a “second opinion” to help with fluency issues and mechanics—grammar, spelling, and punctuation? A good editor/proofreader can be that extra set of eyes that keeps you from “cringing” about errors you spot after you’ve turned in or published your work. My many years of experience, pouring over student papers, have given me skills to help you hone your work. Editing requires an understanding of what the writer wants to convey. That should keep in mind a central theme and take into consideration an audience. Proofreading suggests the finishing touches to your masterpiece.

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It’s a jungle out there! Where have you heard that before? Could it have been from the infamous OCD Monk? Well . . . the song is right that there is a “jungle out there”— everything social media—clamoring for our attention. How to capture the imagination of an audience without the photoshopped selfies, groomed videos, etc., is the question. Too bad words can’t be photoshopped! To get your message across is to make the blemishes go away so you can put your best foot forward. And that’s when an editor/proofreader comes in handy. It’s a competitive world out there, and my game is to help you own it!

WORD OF THE MONTH

Perspicacious [ˌpɜːspəˈkæʃəs]

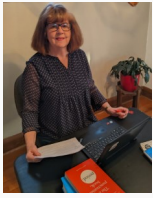
ADJECTIVE

having a ready insight into and understanding of things
“It offers quite a few facts to the *perspicacious* reporter.”
Synonyms: astute, sharp-witted, sharp, acute, intelligent, clever, alert, canny, media-savvy, perceptive, observant, discriminating, sagacious, wise, sage, far-seeing, far-sighted, cunning, artful, crafty, wily, calculating, disingenuous

Website: <http://www.proofingpositive.com>



About



Hi. My name is Shelley. I've been a word enthusiast as long as I can remember. Words can be our best friends.

Perhaps you've heard that "the pen is mightier than the sword." Here's why (first the poem):

True,—This!

Beneath the rule of men entirely great
The pen is mightier than the sword. Behold
The arch-enchanters wand!— itself a nothing!—
But taking sorcery from the master-hand
To paralyse the Cæsars—and to strike
The loud earth breathless!—Take away the sword—
States can be saved without it!

Treguer, P. (n.d.) The pen is mightier than the sword': meaning and early occurrences. https://worldhistories.net

The pen requires

- thoughtfulness about what to say.
• consideration of the audience.
• right motives.
• desire to engage and impress.
• belief in intellectual "might."



The sword means

- overpowering the enemy.
• using one's advantage against another's.
• destroying, not "winning over."
• pressing your own agenda.
• believing physical might wins the day.

Remember who the real master is.

"States can be saved without it!"—the sword, that is!

I'd love to hear from you!
Call/Text 218-260-6720
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Punctuation Personified

The Exclamation Point ! As a proper exclamation point, I only want to be used sparingly and rarely--if ever!--in formal writing.(

A quote sporting an exclamation point, of course, should be kept in its entirety.)

Also, in informal writing, I should not be a substitute for good writing that doesn't rely on me to show emphasis. Exploiting my special function by putting me at the end of multiple sentences in one paragraph, too, is overkill!

But ... accolades to a writer who wishes to elicit surprise or enthusiasm by using my robust mark as an accent to words that suggest such but don't always literally translate as such.



"different than" or "different from"

"If you don't give a fig for what nitpickers think about your language use, proceed with different than or different from depending on how you feel.

"If you give a fig, or part of a fig, use different from, except when beginning a clause, or when to do so would sound terrible.

"If you are British, or would like people to think that you spent enough time in the United Kingdom for it to have influenced your approach to language, use different to whenever you feel like it."

("Should It Be 'Different from' or 'Different than'? Or Is It 'Different to?'" Merriam-Webster, http://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play)

How to be Master of the Jungle

Speak and write winsomely, intentionally, and genuinely. What you want to get across is dependent on the words you use; but, other things matter as well: namely, structure, grammar and mechanics . Be error free today!

