

AMA Manual of Style

You are looking at 41-50 of 698 items for:

Grammar

Stacy Christiansen

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Item type: chapter

A clear understanding of grammar is basic to good writing. Many excellent grammar books provide a detailed discussion of specific principles (see 25.3, Resources, General Style and Usage). In this section, the focus is on how to avoid common grammatical and writing errors. The content of this chapter is organized from the smallest parts of speech (eg, nouns and pronouns) to larger structures (eg, sentences and paragraphs)...

Punctuation

Cheryl Iverson

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Item type: chapter

Periods, question marks, and exclamation points are the 3 end-of-sentence punctuation marks. Periods are the most common end-of-sentence punctuation marks. Use a period at the end of a declarative or imperative sentence and at the end of each table footnote and each figure legend...

Plurals

Brenda Gregoline

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The plurals of most nouns are formed by adding -s or -es. However, English is irregular enough that it pays to consult a dictionary for most forms. Collective nouns may take either singular or plural verbs, depending on whether the word refers to the group as a unit or to its members as individuals. In American English, most nouns naming a group regarded as a unit are treated as singular. (See also 7.8.5, Grammar, Subject-Verb Agreement, Collective Nouns.)...

Articles of Opinion

Richard M. Glass

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Editorials are short essays that usually reflect the views of the editor or the policies of the journal. Editorials may be written by the editor, a member of the editorial staff or editorial board, or an invited author. Editorials may comment on an article in the same issue of the journal, providing additional context and opinion regarding its implications, or may deal with a separate topic of interest to the journal's readers or editors. In the past, it was common for authors of medical journal editorials not to be identified, as is still the usual practice for newspaper editorials. This

Collective Nouns

Brenda Gregoline

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Collective nouns may take either singular or plural verbs, depending on whether the word refers to the group as a unit or to its members as individuals. In American English, most nouns naming a group regarded as a unit are treated as singular. (See also , Grammar, Subject-Verb Agreement, Collective Nouns.) Fifty percent of my time is spent on administration. Fifty percent of all physicians do not exercise regularly. The audience was enthralled. This gathering is becoming noisy. At noon today the jury delivers its verdict. For a unit of measure, use a singular verb. Five milliliters was injected. Two weeks of

Latin and Greek vs English

Brenda Gregoline

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There is a trend toward using English plurals rather than the traditional Latin or Greek. However, in most cases the latest edition of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary or Dorland's or Stedman's medical dictionary should be followed. Consistency within a manuscript is key. |

Microorganisms

Brenda Gregoline

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When referring to the common vernacular plural of a genus, use roman lowercase letters. Consult the latest edition of Dorland's or Stedman's medical dictionary. For organisms that do not have a common plural, add the word species or organisms to the genus name to indicate a plural use (see also , Nomenclature, Organisms and Pathogens). |

Abbreviations

Brenda Gregoline

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For most all-capital abbreviations, the plural is formed by adding s. Do not use an apostrophe before the s. (See also , Punctuation, Apostrophe, Using Apostrophes to Form Plurals.) Note: When plural all-capital-letter abbreviations are found in an all-capital setting, such as a first-level heading, the plural s is still lowercase. REFERRAL PATTERNS IN MIDWESTERN HMOs |

Plurals of Symbols, Letters, Numbers, and Years

Brenda Gregoline

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Use 's to indicate the plural of letters, signs, or symbols spoken as such, or for words referred to as words when s alone would be confusing. Note the use of italics with the inflectional ending in roman type for words, letters, and numbers but not for symbols and signs. (See also , Punctuation, Apostrophe, Using Apostrophes to Form Plurals.) He uses too many and's. All of the capital P's should be underlined. Please use +'s to indicate a positive result. Note: If the symbol can be easily expressed using words, this is preferred: Please use plus signs to indicate positive

When Not to Use Plurals

Brenda Gregoline

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Beware of "pluralizing" nouns that cannot stand on their own as plurals. serum samples (not "sera") urine tests (not "urines") |