

AMA Manual of Style

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Non-English Words, Phrases, and Accent Marks

Brenda Gregoline

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

ISBN: 9780195176339 eISBN: 9780195382846

Item type: chapter

Publisher: Oxford University Press

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.003.0012

Some words and phrases derived from other languages have become part of standard English usage. Those that have not should be italicized (see 22.0, *Typography*), and usually a definition should be given. Consult standard medical dictionaries and the most recent edition of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary for guidance. A public health investigation revealed that the source of lead exposure was *hai ge fen* (clamshell powder), 1 of the 36 ingredients of the Chinese herbal medicine. *In Vitro Susceptibility Testing of Antifungal Agents* Medical information and advice abound on the Internet, but remember: *Caveat lector*. Lorenz Böhler, the son of a carpenter, eventually became the *praeceptor traumatologiae totus mundi* (teacher of traumatology in the whole world)...

Accent Marks (Diacritics)

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Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

ISBN: eISBN:

Item type: section

Publisher: Oxford University Press

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.021.191

An accent mark (diacritic), when added to a letter, indicates a phonetic value different from that of the unmarked letter. English words once spelled with accent marks (eg, *cooperate*, *preeminent*) now are written and printed without them. Consult the most recent edition of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary to resolve questions about whether a word should retain its accent. In general, English words in common usage should be spelled without diacritical marks. Accent marks should always be retained in the following instances: # Proper names *Dr Bönne*man is a Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences. # When it is desirable to show

Use of Italics

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Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

ISBN: eISBN:

Item type: section

Publisher: Oxford University Press

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.409

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date: 27 June 2017

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Translation of Titles

Brenda Gregoline

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009
ISBN: eISBN:
Item type: section

Publisher: Oxford University Press
DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.410

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Capitalization and Punctuation

Brenda Gregoline

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009
ISBN: eISBN:
Item type: section

Publisher: Oxford University Press
DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.411

Non-English words should be capitalized and non-English phrases punctuated according to that language's standard of correctness. Follow language dictionaries and *The Chicago Manual of Style*. |