



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

Writing Skills Improvement Program

You've Got Style! WSIP Special Topics Workshop

WSIP Writing Tips Sheets: free to download from our website

Style Guides

- [University of Arizona's Marketing & Communications Written Style Guide](#)
- [The Associated Press Stylebook](#)
- [Modern Language Association \(MLA\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association \(APA\)](#)
- [The Chicago Manual of Style](#)
- [American Medical Association \(AMA\)](#)
- Strunk & White's [The Elements of Style](#)

Additional Resources

- [Merriam-Webster's Thesaurus](#)
- [Corpus of Contemporary American English](#)
- [Grammarly](#)
- [Microsoft Copilot](#) (UA employees: available via your professional Microsoft 365 online account)
- [ChatGPT](#)
- [Hemingway App](#)

WSIP Workshops

Review our list of weekly [Workshops](#). Topics are available at the beginning of each semester. Registration is required. [Custom workshops](#) are available upon request.

Style Imitation Activity

- Select a short excerpt (one-five sentences) from any text that is well-written and engaging.
- Notice the wording, tone, voice, and sentence structure used in this excerpt.
- Imitate the tone, voice, and sentence structure but write about your own topic.
- You can "borrow" some words or phrases as long as you do not publish or otherwise share the content as if it is entirely original.





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Example Style Imitation

Original Text:

"Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't."
— Mark Twain, *Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World*

Style Imitation:

"Writing is more challenging than reading, but it is because writing is obliged to engage the mind; reading isn't." (Note: We don't believe this claim; it's just an example!)

