

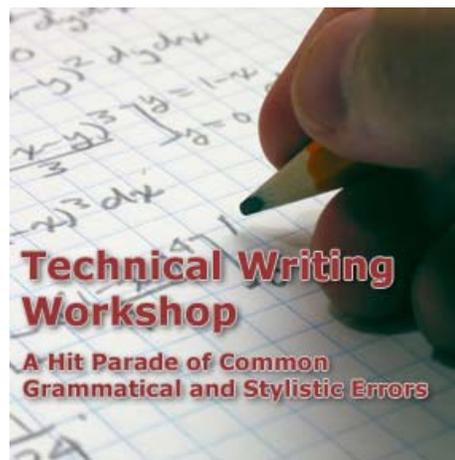
# Technical Writing Workshop

## *A Hit Parade of Common Grammatical and Stylistic Errors*

### Course description

An important goal of scientific research is publication, which means that technical writing is an integral part of a scientist's profession. Poor writing can, and often does, prevent or delay the publication of good science.

Based on the "Top Ten" most common errors, this hands-on workshop will ask participants to examine and improve typical text excerpts from actual scientific manuscripts.



The workshop is aimed at proficiency-level writers of technical English. Participation is limited to 30 persons.

The workshop will be given by Lilli-Marie Pavka, a native English speaker, experienced copyeditor of scientific and technical manuscripts, instructor of Cambridge business English courses and Webmaster at the IBM Research - Zurich Laboratory. She has improved countless scientific papers for her IBM colleagues and has given this workshop IBM-internally and at various research institutes, including ETH, Max Planck Institut Mainz, Max Planck Institut Stuttgart, Bracco Research (Geneva), and the IEEE Swiss Chapter.

### Topics include

- which vs. that
- allows to, permits to, requires to (transitive and intransitive verbs)
- dangling participles
- ambiguities, parsing and syntax
- and much more

### Participant feedback

"Compact and very useful."

"Excellent examples! Extremely practical and helpful."

"Very good workshop. Well worth taking."

"I finally understand the difference between 'which' and 'that'."

"Perhaps a little more time would be helpful to look at all the complex examples. When will you repeat this workshop?"

"Good workshop!"

"Very welcome & useful. Thanks."

"Thanks for your efforts! I appreciated the course a lot and learned a lot!"

"This course should be mandatory for scientists."

*"As a journal editor, I wish every author could take this workshop. That would make my life easier and get their papers published much faster."*

"I liked the before/after worksheet format. This will be handy for future reference."

"I'll recommend the workshop to the rest of my group. (I hope you give it again)."

"Should be required for all new scientific employees!"

"The worksheets are key to this course. They are to the point of each topic."

"The level was a little too high for me, but I still learned a lot. I hope I can apply it to my next paper."

"The course is very dense but manageable in just 3 hours. I wouldn't have had time to attend a longer course anyway."

"I know much less than I thought. Thanks!"