

PHY1600S - Effective Communication for Physicists.

The Web site entitled *Writing Guidelines for Engineering and Science Students*, at

<http://www.writing.engr.psu.edu/>

contains a large amount of material that you will find useful to sharpen and refresh your writing and presentation skills. Much of the information on this site is based on Alley's *The Craft of Scientific Writing* (see my list of texts). In this assignment, you will use the section entitled *Writing Exercises*; I strongly encourage you to view the PowerPoint presentations on *Scientific Writing* and *Scientific Presentations* (the menu is on the left hand side of the page), well before you prepare your own in-class presentations.

Assignment 1.

Your first assignment – should you choose to accept it (!) – is a preparation for most of the rest. On the Web site above, click on the menu item *Writing Exercises* and work your way through the *Exercises on Grammar*, *Exercises on Punctuation*, and *Exercises on Usage*.

To allow me to check that you have done these conscientiously (not that I don't trust you!) please email to me – key@physics.utoronto.ca – your answers to the following questions, which can be found in these exercises – (remember that your document will be titled joe1.doc, if your name is Joe!).

1. What year was the Great Comet?
2. What kind of meat is healthy to eat (any comment?)?
3. What values were "different from" ours?
4. In the last paragraph of the Punctuation #3 exercise, what is the nature of the final (fourth) mistake?

Finally, correct the following sentences:

5. I find that my written documents require continuous revision.
6. The revisions which I made have to be deleted, though the amount was small.
7. The principle reasons for my error was my hangover from the night before.
8. I enjoy glass of wine in evenings: my doctor says it is very healthy.