

## Writing style guide

## **Purpose**

Te Pūkenga Writing Style Guide provides our people with guidance on consistent use of language, tone and ways of writing. It ensures our written (including electronic) and verbal communication is uniform, in line with Te Pūkenga values and reflects the needs of our priority audiences. This style guide has been developed with input from communications practitioners across the network.

## **Contents**

Our tone of voice	4	<b>Grammar and punctuation</b>	13
Language	5	Acronyms	13
Te reo Māori	6	Addresses	13
Our organisation	7	Ampersand (&)	13
Our vision	7	Apostrophes	13
Our values	7	Brackets	13
Te Pūkenga	7	Bullet points	14
Our people	7	Capitals	14
Our teams	8	Colons and semi-colons	15
Our subsidiaries	8	Contractions	15
Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning	9	Dashes	15
What are we doing and how we describe it	9	e.g. and i.e.	15
Other words and phrases we use	10	Ellipsis ()	15
Words and acronyms we will never use	10	Endorsements	16
Our preferred terms for things and people	10	Exclamation marks	16
Formatting	11	Extracts	16
Fonts	11	Headings	16
Alignment	11	However	16
Spacing	11	Links	16
Bold	11	Plurals	17
Italics	11	Quotation marks	17
Paragraphs	11	Spelling	17
Underline	11	Titles of documents or publications	17
Numbers	12	Plain English synonyms	18
Measurements	12	Words and spelling	24
Dates	12	Mistaken words	25
Time	12		
Phone numbers	12		
Money	12		

## Our tone of voice

We are Te Pūkenga, here to welcome and guide, to share and inspire, to reimagine learning in a way that is purposeful and creates real value for all people.

Our voice is a conversation that reflects the reciprocal nature of a new way of learning and teaching. It is a two-way, face-to-face korero, with humanity and helpfulness.

Ako and partnership are reflected in our sharing of knowledge and power. Ako is grounded in reciprocity between educator and learners and among learners, where everyone is empowered to learn with and from each other. Partnership reflects our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and focus on reciprocal relationships for mutual benefit.

#### We:

- · use plain, familiar language
- · use short sentences
- use the active voice this means we avoid using the passive tense whenever possible
- say 'you' and 'your' when talking to you
- use simple contractions like 'you're' or 'you'll'
- · mark Māori words up correctly, including macrons
- use respectful, inclusive and gender neutral language.

## **Authentic**

- Our voice leads with confidence and credibility.
- · Welcoming and guiding.
- Sharing, not dictating.
- · Authentically human.
- Lighting the path toward a new way of learning.

## **Empowering**

- Our voice brings people together and lifts them up.
- · Inclusive, empowering and uplifting.
- · Building momentum.
- · Purposeful and helpful.
- Creating real value and meaning for all.

## **Bold**

- Our voice celebrates the new and challenges the status quo.
- Brave, bold and open to new possibilities.
- Optimistic and inquisitive.
- A daring kind of energy.
- Sharing the journey with brightness and positivity.

## Language

#### **Audience**

Before you start writing, consider who will be reading it, what information they need from you, and what, if anything, you need them to do. Write to interest everyone, not just affected parties or experts.

#### Jargon

Using big words or technical language may confuse your audience, so try to limit this where possible. Please refer to the list of Plain English Synonyms (page 18) to help.

### Redundancy and repetition

Redundancy refers to using words you don't need, either because they make your text unnecessarily wordy, without adding value to its meaning, or they repeat words in the same sentence. Be careful with linking words such as that, which, really and very. Overuse of these words are unnecessary and can make a sentence sound clumsy. If you can say the sentence without these words, then you don't need to use them.

## **Gender-inclusive language**

We use pronouns that are gender exclusive, unless we are referring to a specific individual and we know their preferred pronouns.

For example, we use 'firefighter' not 'fireman'.

We respect a person's pronouns when referring to them.

We also use:

- spouse or partner not husband, wife
- different sex not opposite sex
- chair not chairman, chairwoman
- machine-made, artificial, synthetic not man-made.

#### **Disability language**

We use the term 'disabled person' as outlined in the New Zealand Disability Strategy rather than 'person with a disability'.

We use language that respects disabled people as active individuals with control over their own lives.

We do not use 'disorder' unless it is part of a formal diagnosis.

We avoid languages that portrays people as victims, such as 'suffers from'.

For example, we use 'a person with a vision impairment', 'a person with hearing loss', 'a person with limited mobility'.

We avoid phrases that may associate impairments with negative things.

For example, 'blind drunk' or 'deaf to our pleas'.

We use 'support' instead of 'help'.

We include disabled people in the visual elements of our work.

## Te reo Māori

Te Pūkenga te reo Māori writing style guide has been collated to ensure the accurate and consistent use of te reo Māori across all Te Pūkenga internal and external facing communications and marketing (print and digital), as well as signage and naming conventions.

At Te Pūkenga we typically follow Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori Guidelines for Māori Orthography: Ngā Tikanga Tuhi a Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori. These are kept udpated and can be found on Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori | Māori Language Commission website, tetaurawhiri.govt.nz/assets/ Uploads/Corporate-docs/Orthographic-conventions/58e52e80e9/Guidelines-for-Maori-Language-Orthography.pdf

Othography is the written system selected for any language, it includes spelling conventions, use of diacritics (the tohutō or macron for te reo Māori to indicate vowel length), and features of punctuation such as use of capital letters and hyphernation. We've also developed some additional features for Te Pūkenga written style.

The orthographic conventions for te reo Māori have changed over time as written use of the language has developed. What we outline below may be different to what you have seen in other contexts, and in particular in older printed texts. Depending on the tribal dialect of your region, this may be in the use of macrons.

Te reo Māori is the indigenous language of Aotearoa New Zealand and like New Zealand Sign Language, is an official language here in Aotearoa New Zealand. Te reo Māori was the first language to be spoken by the first peoples of the land and we honour te reo Māori by adopting the orthographic convention that begins with te reo Māori, followed by the English equivalent. This is both a reflection of Aotearoa New Zealand's national and governmental commitment to support Māori language revitalisation strategies and also to adopt a convention which enables our institution to use te reo Māori within English text.

Te Pūkenga will leverage indigenous collective impact frameworks already developed for the Aotearoa New Zealand context and are therefore committed to the preservation and normalisation of te reo

For the instructional guide on how to use te reo Māori in Te Pūkenga, please refer to our Te Pūkenga te reo Māori writing style guide.

## Our organisation

#### **Our vision**

#### Whakairohia he toki, tāraia te anamata I Learning with purpose, creating our futures

The most well used and highly prized tool of the pre-European Māori world was the toki or the adze. This implement was used to fashion waka, build houses, fell trees and even create other tools. So prized was the toki that there are many Māori proverbs that speak of its application and even people who were seen as proficient in various activities were called 'toki.'

The notion of toki aligns with the name Te Pūkenga which also means to be proficient or skilled in particular roles. By including the word whakairohia in the first part of the sentence, this phrase is encouraging people to upskill themselves, or equip themselves with the relevant tool.

The second part of the phrase is about the future. The word tārai means to fashion, shape or sculpt and anamata is the future. Therefore the phrase as a whole is about encouraging people to prepare themselves with a skillset that will help us all to shape the future.

#### **Our values**

Manawa nui | We reach out and welcome in

Manawa roa | We learn and achieve together

Manawa ora | We strengthen and grow the whole person

## Te Pūkenga

We always refer to ourselves as Te Pūkenga.

We are not, and would never say:

- The Te Pūkenga
- Te Pūkenga's
- TP.

#### Our people

We refer to each other as colleagues, work friends, whānau, or Te Pūkenga people. We are never employees or staff.

We use capital letters for all job titles or positions when referring to them in person. For example, 'Deputy Chief Executive Operations Vaughan Payne,'

We use lower case for job titles when referring to a group. For example, 'The chief executives of Te Pūkenga subsidiaries.'

We use people's full name in the first instance and their title and surname for subsequent mentions. For example, 'Chief Executive Stephen Town hosted the event last week, Mr Town said it was fantastic to be able to attend.'

#### **Our teams**

We have divisions, and teams that belong to divisions. For example:

- Operations Division
- Partnerships and Equity Division
- Learner Journey and Experience Division
- Employer Journey and Experience Division
- · Academic Delivery and Innovation Division
- People and Culture Team
- · Communications and Marketing Team

## **Our subsidiaries**

We use full names of subsidiaries in the first instance, then subsequent mentions are shortened.

## Our subsidiaries are:

Full name	Known as
Ara Institute of Canterbury Limited	Ara
Eastern Institute of Technology Limited	EIT
Manukau Institute of Technology Limited	MIT
Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology Limited	NMIT
Northland Polytechnic Limited	NorthTec
Open Polytechnic of New Zealand Limited	Open Polytechnic
Otago Polytechnic Limited	Otago Polytechnic
Southern Institute of Technology Limited	SIT
Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology Limited	Toi Ohomai
Tai Poutini Polytechnic Limited	TPP
Universal College of Learning Limited	UCOL
Unitec New Zealand Limited	Unitec
Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Ltd	WBL
Whitireia Community Polytechnic Limited	Whitireia
Wellington Institute of Technology Limited	Weltec
Waikato Institute of Technology Limited	Wintec
Western Institute of Technology Limited	WITT

## Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning

First mention: 'Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited, a subsidiary of Te Pūkenga'

Subsequent mentions: 'Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning' or 'WBL'

Our Work Based Learning Business Divisions are:

- Competenz
- Connexis
- **BCITO**
- MITO

In all completion certificates and legal documents we refer to our Work Based Learning Business Divisions with their full name name. In all other communications, use the full name for the first instance then their 'known as' name in subsequent mentions.

Full name	Known as
Competenz Business Division, Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited	Competenz
Connexis Business Division, Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited	Connexis
BCITO Business Division, Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited	BCITO
MITO Business Division, Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited	MITO

## How we describe our purpose

#### For learners

Te Pūkenga is creating a unified network of polytechnics and industry training organisations to give you the benefit of the strengths of the whole network in your local region.

Our ākonga will remain at the centre of everything we do. You'll be part of a system that is culturally responsive, honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi, is consistent across the country, and will let you learn at your own pace, in your own place.

Te Pūkenga is here to help you fit learning around your life.

#### For employers

We're creating a world-class vocational and on-the-job learning system for Aotearoa New Zealand that brings together the strengths of ITPs and ITOs. The goal is to help learners get more than qualifications. It's about building the right skills and knowledge, so they are ready to take their next step.

## Other words and phrases we use

- All learners
- Regional richness
- Nationally and internationally recognised
- Creating real value for [...]
- Making how and what you learn relevant to the world of work
- Learner-focused
- · Improving outcomes for Māori learners, whānau, hapū and iwi, and employers
- · Promoting lifelong learning
- Sustainable
- United
- Collective strength
- Separate strands are stronger together the harakeke
- Supportive
- Equitable
- · Putting learners first

## Words and acronyms we don't use

- Megapolytech
- Megapolytechnic
- VE
- VET
- Realigning this is what happens to your wheels
- It's early days those were earlier, we're in the here and now
- Treaty of Waitangi we use Te Tiriti o Waitangi or Te Tiriti

## Our preferred terms for things and people

**Vocational and on-the-job learning** — not vocational education or vocational education and training. The exception here is in the international marketplace.

Ākonga (Learners) — not students, trainees, enrolees (although occasionally these have a place).

**Graduates** — learners who have completed a programme.

Our network — means Te Pūkenga and subsidiaries.

Wider network — means Te Pūkenga, subsidiaries and transitional ITOs.

## **Formatting**

#### **Fonts**

We use Calibri (body), size 11, on all internal documents, emails, corporate documents, and any materials produced from the MS Office Suite (primarily Outlook, Word and PowerPoint).

Designed documents may use different fonts, please refer to the Brand guidelines for more information or contact marketing@tepukenga.ac.nz.

## **Alignment**

We align left to support better accessibility of our material and content.

## **Spacing**

We use single spacing between sentences, not double spacing.

#### **Bold**

We rarely use bold outside of headings. To emphasise words or phrases we prefer to use headings, bullets and put key information at the start of sentences.

#### **Italics**

We use italics rarely. If we need to emphasis content, we prefer to use headings, bullets and put key information at the start of sentences. If required, we use bold.

#### **Paragraphs**

We divide text into digestible sections using paragraphs. Paragraphs provide the reader with time to pause and think and can indicate a change of subject.

#### **Underline**

We use underlining rarely, apart from for hyperlinks. If we need to emphasise content, we prefer to use headings, bullets and put key information at the start of sentences. If required, we use bold.

## Numbers

#### We:

- spell out numbers one to nine, unless in a table, list or when included in a designed element
- use numerals for 10–999,999 unless at the beginning of a sentence
- use decimals for numbers over 1 million. For example, 10.5 million in tables, we shorten to 1m or 10.5m
- start numbers less than one with a numberal before the decimal point. For example, 0.5, 1.2
- type decimal points as full stops
- use commas for any number over 10,000, but not for 1000
- use numerals when showing a range. For example, 6-10 people
- use numerals and the word percent for percentages.

#### Measurements

#### We:

- use abbreviations for all measurements. For example, mm, kg, m<sup>2</sup>, km/h, °C
- always use numerals for measurement
- keep numbers and their unit of measurement on the same line
- no space is used between the number and unit of measurement. For example, \$2, 2kg.

#### **Dates**

When including both time and date, we say the time first. For example, '9am, Wednesday 8 September' not '8th September' or 'September 8'.

#### **Time**

We use 'am' and 'pm' for time.

For example, '9am', not '9:00am' or '9 o'clock'.

We use midday and midnight, not noon, 12am or 12pm.

We do not use time descriptors alongside times.

For example, '9pm tonight'.

## **Phone numbers**

We write phone numbers without brackets or hyphens. We use spaces to break a number up. For example, 021 907 538.

#### Money

When a sum of money is four digits or longer, we separate every third numeral from the right with a comma. For example, \$11,234 or \$6,345,231.

When referring to currencies other than the New Zealand dollar, we place the country abbreviation before the dollar sign. For example, AUD\$3,000 or US\$2,500.

## Grammar and punctuation

## Acronyms

For the first reference on a document, we suse the full words, followed by the acronym in backets. We then use the acronym throughout the document.

#### **Addresses**

We always address letters to a person or designation. For example,

The Manager, **Griffen & Smith Ltd** 123 Sample Street Redwood Christchurch 8051

We show names and initials and full addresses (or the post office box number when it is known) to ensure prompt delivery.

The box number should be typed as 'PO Box ...' not 'Box ...' or 'P O Box'.

The abbreviation for 'care of' is typed 'C/o' not 'C/-'.

#### Ampersand (&)

We use the word 'and' and not '&' unless it is part of an organisation's proper brand or name.

#### **Apostrophes**

We generally don't add an extra 's' after nouns or names ending in 's'. For example, we say 'the business' work' — not 'the business's work'.

Exceptions are okay where the alternative reads more naturally.

We don't use an apostrophe for dates numbers or plurals of abbreviations. For example, 1990s or ITPs.

We don't use apostrophes on te reo. For example, we don't say 'Te Pūkenga's'.

#### **Brackets**

We limit the use of brackets and avoid using them in the middle of sentence.

## **Bullet points**

Bullet points can be used to highlight key information that does not need to be in a specific order.

When the list items form a complete list:

- each bullet point should start with lower case
- we don't use an 'and' at the end of the second-to-last bullet point
- only the last bullet should have a full stop.

When the list items are complete sentences themselves, it is slightly different.

- You can use a capital letter at the start of each bullet point.
- You can also use full stop at the end of each bullet point.

Bullet points don't need a line after the sentence introducing the list, or between each item.

Legal documents often use 'and', 'or' and semi-colons at the end of each list item. Do not change the formatting for lists in legal and regulatory documents.

#### **Numbered lists**

A numbered list must be used to highlight information in a specific order. Such as steps or a timeline. Each line should be a complete sentence with a capital letter to start and a full stop to end.

#### **Capitals**

We only use capitals for proper nouns, such as:

- names of people, places and things, including buildings and brands
- specified committee, faculty, department, institute or school: Public Administration Select Committee
- names of groups, directorates and organisations: Affordable Housing Action Group
- titles of specific acts or bills: Human Rights Act (but 'the act' or 'the bill' at second mention)
- names of specific schemes known to people: Right to Buy
- names of wars: World War 1 and World War 2
- job titles following the person's name
- titles like Mr, Ms, Dr, the Duchess of Cambridge (the duchess at second mention)
- titles of books: Content Design
- header cells in tables: Yearly budget.

We use a capital letter for the Crown, and for Government and Parliament when referring to a specific government or sitting of the parliament in Aotearoa New Zealand. We use lower case for general references to government.

Generally, terms are not proper nouns, so should not be capitalised. Technical terms are not proper nouns. But if a word or term is branded as a distinct thing, treat it as a proper noun.

#### Colons and semi-colons

We don't use semi-colons or comma splices. We write two sentences instead, or separate the clauses using an em-dash (with a space on either side).

A colon often precedes an explanation, a list, or introduces a quoted sentence. It is also used to indicate a subtitle of a report or document.

For example, 'Mobilising the new world: Interim report executive summaries'

#### Contractions

Contractions make text feel more conversational and friendly. They also make complex sentences easier to read for native English speakers.

However, the punctuation can make sentences harder to read for some users. We rewrite sentences to avoid using contractions if it fits with the overall tone. When we use them, we only use simple contractions.

#### **Dashes**

There are three types of dashes: em-dash (—), en-dash (–), and hyphen (-).

- 1. Em-dashes are used to separate thoughts in a sentence or for emphasis. For example, 'Te Pūkenga needs to meet the needs of learners, their whānau and employers what we will do, and how we will create that future experience.'
- 2. En-dashes are used to show numerical range to read as 'to' or 'through'. No spaces are used on either side of the dash.
  - For example 'Te Pūkenga is expected to have 280,000-320,00 learners.'
- 3. Hyphens are used for compound words. For example, 'Te Pūkenga has a once-in-a-generation opportunity'

We don't use a dash when we're using the words 'between' and 'from' when talking about a range. For example 'Te Pūkenga will undertake transition work between 1 April 2020 and 1 January 2023.'

#### e.g. and i.e.

We use full stops between and after the letters of i.e. and e.g. We do not use a comma after e.g.

When starting a list or sentence with one of these, only the first letter is capitalised.

If you're not sure which to use, then keep in mind that i.e. means "in other words" and e.g. means "for example".

#### Ellipsis (...)

An ellipsis (...) is three dots used to show that words have been omitted from a quotation to make it more concise and clearer. Use a space on each side of the ellipsis but none between the dots.

#### **Endorsements**

Endorsements note the use of a document, such as confidential or internal use only.

They should be noted in **bold** capitals, two single spaces above the address at the left-hand margin on both the envelope and the correspondence.

For example, CONFIDENTIAL

When endorsements relating to confidentiality are to be typed on documents, the endorsement is either to be:

- · inserted as a watermark on each page, or
- centred and placed as close to the top of the page as possible and on the last line at the bottom of the page, preferably in the header and footer.

#### **Exclamation marks**

We don't use exclamation marks.

#### **Extracts**

Extracts must be formally identified as follows:

- Extract from "Greymouth Evening Star" of 12 July 1993, or
- Extract from a letter from Messrs Smith and Brown, High Street, Notown to Jim Doyle, ITPNZ, dated 12 July 1993.

If a portion of the extract has to be deliberately omitted, use an ellipsis (...) to indicate the omitted text.

#### **Headings**

We use sentence case so only the first letter is upper case.

We never link headings.

#### **However**

If a sentence starts with however, it is always followed by a comma and what comes after must be a full sentence.

#### Links

We do not include the mechanics of a URL. Where we include a link, we add the hyperlink where possible.

For example, we use tepukenga.ac.nz not www.tepukenga.ac.nz or https://www.tepukenga.ac.nz.

#### **Plurals**

We don't use brackets or '/s' to refer to something that could be either singular or plural. We use the plural as this covers both possibilities.

For example, 'Send your completed documents to Te Pūkenga' not 'Send your completed document(s) to Te Pūkenga'.

Our organisations and groups are singular entities.

For example, 'Te Pükenga is exploring options' not 'Te Pükenga are exploring options' and 'the team is gathering information' not 'the team are gathering information.'

#### **Quotation marks**

We use double quotation marks for:

- exact quotations
- direct speech.

We use single quotation marks for:

- technical terms (the first time it is used)
- classification descriptors
- title of documents or publications (see titles section below).

If needed, a full stop or comma should go after the quotation mark, and not inside.

## **Spelling**

Dictionaries provide optional spellings for some words such as recognize or authorize. We use the New Zealand spelling for words such as these, which is "ise". For example, recognise, authorise.

The default dictionary for all templates will be set to the English (New Zealand) or Māori as appropriate.

## Titles of documents or publications

We prefer to use sentence case for the titles of documents or publications. We use single quotations to separate document titles from their surrounding text, unless the title is a link.

For example, 'Titles of documents or publications' instead of 'TITLES OF DOCUMENTS OR **PUBLICATIONS'** 

# Plain English synonyms

Instead of	Use	
a number of	some, approximately	
abbreviate	shorten	
accelerate	speed up	
accommodate	make room for, host	
accompanied	came with, went with	
accompany	come with, go with	
accomplish	carry out, do	
accordingly	so	
accumulate	gather	
accurate	correct, exact, right	
achieve	do, make	
acquire	gain, get/got	
additional	more, added, other	
adjacent	next to	
advantageous	helpful	
adverse	harmful, bad	
alteration	change	
altered	changed	
alternatively	otherwise, instead	
ambiguity	doubt, confusion, more than one meaning	
anticipate	expect	
apparent	clear, plain	
as a means of	to	
ask a question	ask	
assistance	help	
at the present time	now	
be responsible for	handle, deal with	
because of the fact that	since (because)	
by means of	by, with	
category	class, group	
clarify	explain	
close down	close	
combined	joint	
commence	begin, start	

Instead of	Use	
components	parts, elements	
comprise	form, include, make up	
concerning	about, on	
conclude	close, end	
concur	agree	
consequently	so	
constitutes	is, forms, makes up	
construct	build	
contains	has	
demonstrate	show	
demonstrated	shown	
depart	leave	
designate	appoint, choose	
desirable	required, needed	
desire	wish	
determine	decide, find	
develop	grown, make	
disclose	show	
discontinue	drop, stop	
discretion	choice, option, caution	
disseminate	issue, mail, send out	
do not	don't	
due to the fact that	since	
during the time that	while	
each and every	each, all	
eliminate	cut, drop	
employ	use	
encounter	meet	
encourage	support	
endeavour	try	
enquire	find out	
ensure	make sure	
establish	set up, provide, show	
evaluate	check, rate, test	
	crieck, rate, test	
evident	clear	

Instead of	Use
expertise	skill
explain	show, tell
extent	amount
facilitate	help, assist
factor	cause, reason
failed to	didn't
feasible	can be done, workable
females	women
finalise	complete, finish
for a period of, for the period of	for, between (xxxx dates or time)
for example	such as
for the purpose of	because
forfeit	give up, lose
give consideration to	consider
give recognition to	recognise
honorific	title
identical	same
if and when	if, when
immediately	at once, now
imperative	essential, necessary
implement (verb)	carry out, do, put in place (verb)
in a timely manner	on time, as quickly as possible
in addition	also, besides, too
in an effort to	to
in conjunction with	with
in lieu of	instead of
in many cases	often
in many instances	sometimes
in order that	for, so
in order to	to
in regard to	about, concerning
in respect of	about, for, as to
in the course of	during, in
in the event that	if, when
incorporate	blend, join, merge
indicate	show, write down

indication sign infrastructure buildings, initial first initiate start injurious harmful, b	equipment	
initial first initiate start	equipment	
initiate start		
injurious harmful. I		
,	bad	
inquire Find out		
integrate connect, o	combine	
intend plan		
intention aim		
is applicable to applies to		
is concerned with concerns		
it is essential to, it is essential that this must,	, it must	
join together join		
legislation law		
limited number a few		
locate find		
location place, sce	ne, site	
magnitude size		
maintain keep, sup	port	
majority greatest,	longest	
make payment pay		
males men		
minimise decrease,	reduce	
mitigate lessen, pr	event, avoid	
modify change		
multi-faceted more than	n one, a range of	
necessitate cause, nec	ed	
no later than by		
notify let know,	tell	
numerous many, mo	many, most	
objective aim, goal	aim, goal	
observe see		
obtain get		
optimum best		
option choice		
outcome result		

Instead of	Use
parameters	limits
participate	take part
pending	to come
per annum	each year, yearly, every year
perform	do
permit	let
pertaining to	about, on
point in time	now, when
portion	part
position	place, put
possess	have, own
preceding	earlier
prepared	ready
previous	earlier, past
previously	before
primarily	mainly
prior to	before
procedures	ways, rules
proceed	go, go on
proficiency	skill
prohibit	ban, not allow
proposes to	means to, suggests
provide	give, supply
provided that	if
provision	supply
purchase	buy
reason for	why
recapitulate	sum up
reduce	cut
reflect	say, show
regarding	about, on
reinstate	put back
relating to	about
remedy	solution, treatment, prevent, fix
render	give, make
request	ask

require         must, need           requirement         need           reside         live           resolve         decide           retain         keep           review         check, go over           selection         choice           shall         will, must           similar to         like           state         say           state of the art         latest           stature         law           subject         the, this, your           submit         give, send           subsequent (subsequent to)         later, next, following           subsequently         after, then           substantial         large, real, strong           sufficient         enough           tangible         real           terminate         end, stop           the majority of         most           therefore         so           therein         there           timely         prompt           uncertain         unsure           value         cost, worth           variable         changeable, uneven, patchy           weight         importance	Instead of	Use	
reside live resolve decide retain keep review check, go over selection choice shall will, must similar to like state say state of the art laest stature law subject the, this, your submit give, send subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following subsequently after, then substatial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changes law in portance whenever whenever whenever whenever wished to speak with reference to laceide decide	require	must, need	
resolve decide retain keep review check, go over selection choice shall will, must similar to like state say state of the art latest statute law subject the, this, your submit give, send subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following subsequently after, then substantial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changes law in ce whenever whenever whenever whenever wished to speak with reference to lace in check, go over leep say sufficient the period timp, period (means the same) timp prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth whenever whene whenever whene whereas since wished to speak with reference to	requirement	need	
review check, go over selection choice  shall will, must  similar to like  state say  state say  state law subject the, this, your subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then substantial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real  terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever when whereas since wished to speak with reference to about	reside	live	
review check, go over  selection choice  shall will, must  similar to like  state say  state of the art latest  statute law subject the, this, your submit give, send subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so therein there  time period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utillse use  value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever whene wished to speak with reference to  asy wished to speak with reference to	resolve	decide	
selection choice  shall will, must  similar to like  state say  state of the art latest  statute law  subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  wienever whenever  whenever  whenever  wished to speak  with reference to  about	retain	keep	
shall will, must  similar to like  state say  state of the art latest  statute law  subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever when whereas since wished to speak with reference to about	review	check, go over	
similar to like  state say  state of the art latest  statute law  subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when  whereas since  wished to speak  with reference to  law  the, this, your  law  subsequently  after, then  large, real, strong  seriod  so  so  then  cough  treal  terminate  end, stop  most  there  so  there  time period (means the same)  timely  unsure  use  value  vost, worth  variable  when  when  whereas  wished to speak  with reference to	selection	choice	
state state say  state of the art latest  statute law  subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  wheneas  wished to speak  with reference to about	shall	will, must	
state of the art latest  statute law  subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when  whereas  wished to speak  with reference to  about	similar to	like	
statute law subject the, this, your submit give, send subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following subsequently after, then substantial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever when whereas since wished to speak with reference to after the send subsequently speak wanted to speak with reference to	state	say	
subject the, this, your  submit give, send  subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following  subsequently after, then  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever whenever  whereas since  wished to speak  with reference to	state of the art	latest	
submit give, send subsequent (subsequent to) later, next, following subsequently after, then substantial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever whene whereas since wished to speak with reference to	statute	law	
subsequent (subsequent to)  subsequently  substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever whenever  whereas since  wished to speak  with reference to  alegale, uneven, descriptions  wanted to speak  with reference to  about	subject	the, this, your	
subsequently substantial large, real, strong sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whereas since wished to speak with reference to about	submit	give, send	
substantial large, real, strong  sufficient enough  tangible real  terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there  time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when  whereas since  wished to speak  with reference to about	subsequent (subsequent to)	later, next, following	
sufficient enough tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever when whereas since wished to speak with reference to about	subsequently	after, then	
tangible real terminate end, stop the majority of most therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever when whereas since with reference to about	substantial	large, real, strong	
terminate end, stop  the majority of most  therefore so  therein there time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when whereas since  wished to speak with reference to about	sufficient	enough	
the majority of so so so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever whenever whenever since wished to speak with reference to so	tangible	real	
therefore so therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever whenever whenever wished to speak with reference to about	terminate	end, stop	
therein there time period time, period (means the same) timely prompt uncertain unsure utilise use value cost, worth variable changeable, uneven, patchy weight importance whenever whenever whenever wished to speak with reference to about	the majority of	most	
time period time, period (means the same)  timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when  whereas since  wished to speak wanted to speak  with reference to about	therefore	so	
timely prompt  uncertain unsure  utilise use  value cost, worth  variable changeable, uneven, patchy  weight importance  whenever when  whereas since  wished to speak  with reference to about	therein	there	
uncertainunsureutiliseusevaluecost, worthvariablechangeable, uneven, patchyweightimportancewheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	time period	time, period (means the same)	
utiliseusevaluecost, worthvariablechangeable, uneven, patchyweightimportancewheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	timely	prompt	
valuecost, worthvariablechangeable, uneven, patchyweightimportancewheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	uncertain	unsure	
variablechangeable, uneven, patchyweightimportancewheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	utilise	use	
weightimportancewheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	value	cost, worth	
wheneverwhenwhereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	variable	changeable, uneven, patchy	
whereassincewished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	weight	importance	
wished to speakwanted to speakwith reference toabout	whenever	when	
with reference to about	whereas	since	
	wished to speak	wanted to speak	
with the exception of except	with reference to	about	
	with the exception of	except	

# Words and spelling

We use British rather than American spelling. Here are some common examples.

Instead of (American)	Use (British)	
organization	organisation	
traveling/traveled	travelling/travelled	
focusing/focused	focussing/focussed	
canceling/canceled	cancelling/cancelled	
labeling/labeled	labelling/labelled	
modeling/modeled	modelling/modelled	
signaling/signaled	signalling/signalled	
aging	ageing	
analyze	analyse	
fulfill	fulfil	
leveling/leveled	levelling/levelled	
unraveling/unraveled	unravelling/unravelled	
tunnelling/tunneled	tunnelling/tunnelled	

There are also various ways to spell some phrases. Here's the form we use:

Instead of	Use
co-ordinate	coordinate
fulltime/full time	full-time
part time	part-time
well-being	wellbeing
Pacifica, Pacifika, Pasifica	Pasifika
WIFI, Wifi, WiFi, Wi-Fi, Wi-fi	wifi

# Mistaken words

about	specifically related to defining an item in relation to a measurement — 'about three centimetres long' (a small amount shorter or longer than 3cm)	around	more appropriate to use in relation to location/movement/ geography — 'Te Awamutu is around 29km from Hamilton', 'he moved around the room'
affect	<ul> <li>affect (1) verb — most common usage: to change, to impact</li> <li>a person's mood or behaviour or the outcome of an event, item or situation. 'My actions might affect the bank balance.'</li> </ul>	effect	effect (1) noun — most common usage: the effect, the change, the impact. The result is on mood or outcome of an event, item or situation  'His shouting had a disturbing effect.'  'The effect of his actions was to stop the protest.'
complimentary	complimentary (1) — Expressing praise or admiration (being complimentary) Given free as a courtesy or favour complimentary (2) — (complimentary gift). 'Complimentary glass of wine on arrival.' 'Please accept this voucher with our compliments.'	complementary	going together well, working well together. Used when one thing completes something else or adds to it/makes it better: it is 'complementary' to the first thing.
dependent dependent on	adj — depending on a person or thing adj — influenced or conditioned by	dependant	noun — a person who depends on another for financial support
disinterested	impartial, objective, neutral	uninterested	not interested, bored
earth	soil	Earth	planet
fewer	If you can count what you are writing about, use fewer e.g. There were fewer cars on the road.	less	If you can't count, or give a number for, what you are writing about, use less e.g. There was less traffic on the road.
infer	to form (an opinion) from evidence : to reach (a conclusion) based on known facts (ie it's what you get out of it)	imply	to express (something) in an indirect way to suggest (something) without saying or showing it plainly (ie it's what you put into it)
licence	a licence	license	to license, licensing
practice	<ul> <li>practice (1) adjective — in practice</li> <li>action being carried out, in operation. 'In theory, driving to and from work each day seemed easy. In practice, it made for a long day.'</li> <li>practice (2) verb — a practice</li> <li>a place where a business or operation is carried out.</li> <li>Usually in terms of a medical practice (doctor's surgery etc).</li> <li>practise (3) noun — a practice</li> </ul>	practise	to practise (verb) — to do something again and again in order to become better at it. 'You need to practise the violin every day.'
	<ul> <li>something done regularly or frequently. 'It was common practice to lock both doors before leaving at night.'</li> </ul>		

programme	head of a school or other organisation. 'Fraser High School's principal, John Smith, said'  programme (1) noun — a course of work, study, chain of events to achieve	program	actions. A basic truth or theory an idea that forms the basis of something, or a law or fact of nature that explains how something works or why something happen. 'Doing that is against my principles'  a program (noun) — a computer program or an application which runs
	an outcome or run a event  programme (2) verb — to set up a running order or activities/ items for a course of work, study, chain of events.  programme (3) verb — to input		on a computer
	information and data into a computer programme (4) noun — a list of items/activities in relation to an event		
stationary	adjective – having a fixed position or not moving. 'The car was stationary.'	stationery	noun — refers to writing materials such as pens and paper. 'The paper clips are in the stationery cupboard'
that	Use that when the meaning of the sentence is affected (or even ruined) if the information after that is left out.	which	Use which when the sentence still makes sense if the information after which is left out.
wrapped	related to wrapping a present	rapt	related to 'rapture'
			either transported with emotion or wholly absorbed or engrossed in or with something.
wrap up	verb — put on warm clothes	wrap-up	noun — a final report or summary

