The Scott,

Maxine Hairston

Foresman

John Ruszkiewicz

Handbook

Christy Friend

for Writers

Sixth Edition

The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers

SIXTH EDITION

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Preface

Readers may not stand in line for the new edition of a reference work as they do for the latest Tom Clancy thriller or Harry Potter adventure. Yet volumes like *The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers*, aren't quite the staid items they once were. The world is changing too fast, especially for writers and readers producing documents with technologies that would have seemed like science fiction a generation ago. *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* remains the friendly, thorough guide to English composition, grammar, mechanics, punctuation, research, and documentation that has made it a best seller since its debut in 1987. But this sixth edition, like its predecessors, once again breaks new ground.

After all, innovation has been a hallmark of *The Scott, Foresman Handbook*. In matters large and small, it has accurately mapped the terrain that writers (and writing instructors) have been exploring for the past decade and more. It featured the first serious treatment of document design in a college handbook, the first appearance in a handbook of Alliance for Computers and Writing (ACW) and Columbia Online Style conventions for citing electronic sources, the first extended discussion of civic and public writing, and a groundbreaking discussion of Web and online research. It was also the first reference work of its kind to address readers in an informal style, the first to take a problem-solving approach to issues of writing, and even the first to index and color-code its documentation pages for quick reference. *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* is, we believe, the most imitated book in its field.

We expect the sixth edition to be similarly flattered. Our mantra for this revision has been "writer friendly," and we have interpreted that theme in dozens of ways to keep a popular volume surprising and fresh. We have introduced new material that we believe writers need today, and we have renovated familiar sections to make them clearer, more inviting, and more efficient. Here are the highlights.

• Concerned about grades? The Scott, Foresman Handbook is the first book of its kind to offer a full chapter exploring how writing is evaluated: Chapter 6, "How Is Writing Evaluated?" Designed to demystify an activity that scares or demoralizes many writers, this important new chapter provides answers to writers' questions about grading processes and criteria. Chapter 6 examines both traditional



grading systems and writing portfolios. The chapter also outlines a writer's rights and responsibilities in the evaluation process.

• Hope to make a difference? The fifth edition of *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* provided support for writers reaching beyond academic assignments to do work in their local communities. This concern for civic and public writing is augmented in the sixth edition with new "Going Public" materials and enhanced attention to both service learning and distance learning programs. In addition to a newly expanded Chapter 8, "How Do You Write for the Public?" the handbook emphasizes civic

and public issues throughout. For instance, in the new model MLA paper, a student teacher explores the consequences of using competency examinations in high school courses. It's an issue that matters to him because he faces it every day.

 Need to craft a Web page? Long a leader in explaining how contemporary technology is changing the way people write, The Scott,

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Foresman Handbook now includes a full chapter on creating Web pages: Chapter 20, "How Do You Create Documents and Web Sites?" This fully illustrated chapter is designed to serve both Web novices and more experienced writers. For instance, it offers a flow chart to provide writers with a step-by-step sequence to Web site creation, whether they choose to work with a basic HTML editor or more helpful Web authoring software. Web design never looked quite so easy.

 Want to look good? The handbook that introduced document design to college writing classes takes the next step to examine the process of document design for both paper and electronic texts. The sophisticated tutorial in Chapter 19, "What Is Document Design?" asks writers to consider design the same way they treat writing, as a process shaped by rhetorical strategies and choices. Chapter 20, "How Do You Create Documents and Web Sites?" and Chapter 21, "Model Documents," follow up with specific advice on everything from choosing fonts to selecting a color palette and are richly illustrated with models that embody principles of successful design.

Want a book that practices what it preaches? The sixth edition of

The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers features a new fourcolor look that embodies the best features of contemporary design. Every effort has been made to create a more open and writer-friendly handbook, one less cluttered and textbookish than previous editions. Headings and fonts are crisper, graphic elements are more stylish, and colors used throughout the four-color volume are both more vivid and better coordinated. Even the reference system used to locate information in the book has been simplified, eliminating or reducing complicated cross-references.

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2 Create a mood for your document. Different colors evoke different emotions. Beight colors have a bold effect, even when applied quantify. Set colors, on the earth raind, may need to cover an entire colorist to the color of the colorist to the colorist to

• Believe that less is more? To make the new writer-friendly design work, we rethought the sequence and length of many chapters, hoping to give each section a distinct focus. For instance, we've broken the slightly mysterious and bulging "Problems with Other Punctuation Marks?" into three concise chapters with far more helpful titles: "Questions About Quotation Marks and Ellipses?" "Questions About Parentheses and Brackets?" and "Questions About Dashes, Hyphens, and Slashes?" (Note, too, that "Questions" replaces "Problems"—a more upbeat way of looking at these issues, we think.) A more serious restructuring occurs in the section on research, where we've broken three long chapters into a more manageable and inviting five. And throughout the book we've looked for similar opportunities to reframe material for clarity and efficiency.

• Want to see real writers at work? We wanted to fill this edition of *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* with images of writers. So, whenever possible, we've collected photographs of the students and professionals whose work appears in this volume. (Some writers chose not to appear.) We are happy to put a more human expression on a reference volume. We've also introduced illustrations to make memorable points about issues of writing, style, and mechanics. A few of the photographs are mainly for fun, but we suspect most readers won't mind.





• Need to look it up? No part of The Scott, Foresman Handbook has been more admired (or imitated) than its chapters on research and documentation. This leadership is enhanced in the sixth edition with a thorough reworking of material that long ago anticipated professional calls to take undergraduate research more seriously. (The Scott, Foresman Handbook has always done that.) The restructured chapters now give more focused attention to the design and planning phase of a research project. There is enhanced coverage of field research too, as well as updated and expanded mater-

ial on electronic tools and resources. Even more attention is given to techniques for evaluating and using sources than in the previous edition, which set a new standard for this coverage. All the documentation chapters have been refined and simplified to make it easier to figure out how to document an item. Once again, we cover a full range of documentation styles: MLA, APA, Chicago, CBE, and COS.

• Want to search online? For the first time, *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* supplements its discussions of writing processes, research, and mechanics with Web links called "E-Tips" that guide writers to valuable information online. We've resisted the

temptation to provide URLs at every possible opportunity; instead, we've selected links that genuinely extend the discussion in The Scott, Foresman Handbook and offer writers more than we can fit into the handbook. We've also looked for links that should gracefully, though can't guarantee their longevity. Web addresses change about as often as the weather.

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Statistics (Continued)

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offer more help to writers whose native language is not English. So we revised our material significantly, dividing one lengthy chapter into three more focused ones. The material is more engaging too, with the rhetorical issues faced by ESL writers addressed more directly.

• How has *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* been revised in this sixth edition? When we began this revision, we compiled a list of changes as we made them—and soon found ourselves slowed down by the effort to record all refinements. Suffice to say that every chapter has been reviewed and hundreds of items have been improved. Some changes are major ones—for example, the addition of lively new models of undergraduate writing in Chapter 11,

Articles and Number Agreement 535

Some nouns that are noncount in English may seem like things hat you can count, such as money. Many other noncount nouns in English can confuse ESL sudents: furniture, hair, traffic, information, duric. It is always a good idea to consult an ESL dictionary or gramar book when you are unsure whether a noun is count or noncount.

Unlike count nouns, which can be singular or plural, noncoun in have only the singular form. In addition, since you can't coun en ouns, you can't use numbers or words that express number (iew many) to describe them. You will use other types of expressions to cate quantity for noncount nouns; these expressions, called quanti, are discussed in Section 33b-5.

confused occasion you searned that users is a noncoulta sound, was your friend has used in in the plural form, with a number. In this case, there users means three glasses of users, and it is acceptable to say that, Other instances in which a noncount noun changes to a count noun include when you mean an instance of, a serving of, or a type of the non-

His grandmother started a business, one instance of business.

I'd like two coffees to go, please, two servings of cuttee copy to be constituted.

There are three new wines on the menu. How kinds of sine

ticle (the) or an indefinite article (a/an). When the count noun is singular, you'll need an article, either alan or the, in front of it. How do you know which article to use? Generally, when you introduce

After that, when both of them know what is being discussed, Bob will use the definite article, the.

DEFINITE MEANING

Bolt: Can you believe the class meets on Friday evenings?

Both 8th and Ted now share the same information.

se how the same guidelines apply to written English in the following

- . When there is only one of the noun.
- The earth is round. There is only one and
- * When the noun is superlative.
- This is the best brand you can buy. There can only be one brand that is the best

When the noun is limited. You will usually use the before a noun that has been limited in some way to show that you are referring to a specific example of the noun.

The book that I read is informative

The book on George W. Bush is out. On George W. Stash limits the book

If you are making a generalization, however, the is not always used.

A book on plants can make a nice gift.

3 Choose articles before general nouns carefully. Who you want to make generalizations, choosing the correct article can be tricky. As a rule, use alan or the with most ingular count nouns to make

"How Can You Write Powerful Arguments?" and Chapter 12, "How Do You Write a Literary Analysis?" Other changes are more limited but no less important. Exercises have been improved, cultural references have been updated, and the style has been smoothed in section after section. Again and again, our list of changes records modifications made "for clarity and economy." Many changes reflect the fact that the authors of The Scott, Foresman Handbook teach writing to undergraduates (especially firstyear students) every semester, year after year. We want this book to work for them.

What's not new? The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers retains its authoritative discussion of the writing process; its full coverage of critical thinking, argumentation, and academic writing; its engaging coverage of grammar, mechanics, and usage; its lively discussion of research; and its exhaustive treatment of documentation. Perhaps most important, it retains its commitment to writers, addressing them throughout in language that is both personal and encouraging. We realize that writing is hard work and that even a volume as thick as this one just begins to address the complexities writers face in sharing their ideas. We want them to succeed.

Supplements

An extensive package of supplements accompanies *The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers,* Sixth Edition, for both instructors and students.

For Instructors

- The Instructor's Resource Manual: Creating a Community of Writers, by John Clark and Ann Recker Westrick of Bowling Green University and Christy Friend, offers guidance to new and experienced teachers in using the handbook and the ancillary package to its best advantage.
- A separate Answer Key for The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers, Sixth Edition, provides answers to all the exercises in the book.
- An Introduction to Teaching Composition in an Electronic Environment, by Eric Hoffman and Carol Scheidenhelm of Northern Illinois University, offers a wealth of computer-related classroom activities. It also provides detailed guidance for both experienced and inexperienced instructors who wish to make creative use of technology in a composition environment.
- An extensive assessment package includes Competency Profile tests, and sample CLAST and TASP exams. In addition, *Diag*nostic and Editing Tests, Third Edition, includes diagnostic tests for analyzing common errors. The additional exercise sets on grammar, punctuation, and mechanics topics supplement those found in the handbook. (It is also available in computerized Windows and Macintosh formats.)
- Model Research Papers Across the Disciplines, Fifth Edition, by Diane Gould of Shoreline Community College, is a collection of student papers in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and contains photo-reproducible material that can be distributed to students.
- The Allyn & Bacon Sourcebook for College Writing Teachers, Second Edition, edited by James McDonald of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, provides instructors with a varied selection of readings written by composition and rhetoric scholars on both theoretical and practical subjects.
- Longman Resources for Instructors also includes these helpful texts: Teaching in Progress: Theories, Practices, and Scenarios, Third Edition; Using Portfolios, by Kathleen McClelland; Comp Tales, a collection of writing teachers' accounts of their teaching

experiences, edited by Richard Haswell and Min-Zhan Lu; and the videos Writing, Teaching, and Learning, by David Jolliffe and Writing Across the Curriculum: Making It Work, produced by Robert Morris College and the Public Broadcasting System.

For Students

- A handy *Documentation Guide* offers up-to-date documentation guidelines for MLA, APA, CMS, CBE, and COS styles, as they are presented in *The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers*, Sixth Edition. It also includes complete sample MLA and APA student papers.
- Researching Online, Fifth Edition, by David Munger and Shireen Campbell of Davidson College, gives students detailed, step-bystep instructions for performing electronic searches; for using email, listservs, Usenet newsgroups, IRC, and MUDs and MOOs to do research; and for assessing the validity of electronic sources.
- ESL Worksheets, Third Edition, by Jocelyn Steer and Dawn Schmid of California State University, San Marcos, provides nonnative speakers with extra practice in areas that tend to be more troublesome for them.
- The Literacy Library Series (*Public Literacy*, by Elizabeth Ervin; Workplace Literacy, by Rachel Spilka; and Academic Literacy, by Stacia Neeley) offers additional models and instruction for writing for each of these three different contexts.
- The Longman Writer's Journal by Mimi Markus, provides students with their own personal space for writing. It contains journal writing strategies, sample journal entries by other students, and many writing prompts and topics to help get students writing.
- Additional Longman Resources for Students include: The Longman Researcher's Journal, by Mimi Markus; Visual Communication, Second Edition, by Susan Hilligoss and Tharon Howard; A Guide for Peer Response, by Tori Haring-Smith, Brown University and Helon Raines; Analyzing Literature: A Guide for Students, by Sharon James McGee; and Reading Critically: Text, Charts, Graphs, Second Edition, by Judith Olson-Fallon.
- This handbook may also be packaged with other books at a discount. Two dictionaries are available: Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, a hardcover desk dictionary; and The New American Webster Handy College Dictionary, Third Edition, a briefer paperback. Also, in conjunction with Penguin Putnam, Longman is proud to offer a variety of Penguin titles, such as Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman, Julia Alvarez's How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents, and Mike Rose's Lives on the Boundary.

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For Instructors and Students

- A companion website, The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers Online (at <www.ablongman.com/sfhandbooks>), offers chapter overviews, self-testing exercises, and Web links for each chapter of the handbook. Students will also find several additional model research projects, and tutorials on topics like drafting and revising, oral presentations, analyzing visuals, academic responsibility, and more. Sample syllabi, sample quizzes and assignments, teaching suggestions, and other resources are also provided for instructors.
- A complete e-book edition of The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers, Sixth Edition, is also available via this companion website.
- The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers Interactive Edition CD-ROM contains the complete, searchable text of the Sixth Edition, with additional live Web links, some audio and video explanations of key concepts, and interactive exercises.
- The Longman English Tutor Center is a new service being offered by Longman. Students who register with our Tutor Center can receive feedback to their draft writing assignments from experienced college instructors of English composition.
- The Longman ExerciseZone and Plagiarism Tutorial CD-ROM is a cross-platform CD-ROM that offers two interactive resources in one. "Exercise Zone" has over 2,500 exercises in ten topic areas of grammar, style, and punctuation with a diagnostic test to help students identify the areas where they need the most practice. The "Plagiarism Tutorial" includes a series of modules which allow students to explore issues of plagiarism, with advice, self-scoring tests, and sample papers to help them learn to avoid and recognize plagiarism.
- Take Note! is a complete research information-management tool for students working on projects that require the use of outside sources.
 This cross-platform CD-ROM integrates note taking, outlining, and bibliography management into one easy-to-use package.
- The Writer's ToolKit Plus is a cross-platform CD-ROM offering a wealth of tutorials, exercises, and reference material for writers and is flexible enough to be used either occasionally for practice or regularly in class lab sessions.
- Course Compass is a nationally-hosted, dynamic, interactive online course management system powered by BlackBoard. This easyto-use and customizable program enables professors to tailor content and functionality to meet individual course needs. Every Course Compass course includes a range of pre-loaded content such as testing and assessment questions, chapter-level objectives,

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chapter summaries, illustrations, web activities and the complete text in electronic form—all designed to help students master core course objectives. For more information, or to see a demo, visit <www.coursecompass.com>.

• Daedalus Online (http://daedalus.pearsoned.com) is the next generation of the highly regarded Daedalus Integrated Writing Environment (DIWE), uniting writing pedagogy with the inherently cooperative tools of the Web. Students can explore online resources, participate in real-time conferences, and use "Invent" and "Respond" prompts to develop their ideas and collaborate with their peers. Daedalus Online's online course management tools also enable instructors to create and post assignments effortlessly, link them to online educational resources, tie lessons to a specific textbook, and customize materials for their classroom.

Acknowledgements

Since a project of this size and scope is necessarily (and fortunately) a collaborative effort, we have many people to thank for their work on *The Scott, Foresman Handbook*. Our acquisitions editor Lynn Huddon supported the new ideas we presented at the proposal stage and provided sound guidance as the book developed and grew. Leslie Taggart, our developmental editor, brought her wealth of experience to this complex effort, coordinating the hundreds of changes we were making with precision and good cheer. Text designer Wendy Ann Fredericks gave our pages a handsome new look and helped us to incorporate dozens of new images into the project. Kay Petronio designed the striking new cover and Donna Campion coordinated the massive package of text supplements. And then there is Bob Ginsberg, our senior production manager who, edition after edition, leaves us in awe of his patience, skill, and book-making sensibility. He is the consummate professional.

We owe a special debt, too, to Carol Rhoades for her fine update of our ESL chapters and to Dan Seward who is largely responsible for the three chapters in *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* on document design. Dan crafted not only the chapters themselves, but the detailed illustrations that accompany them and make them come alive. We would like to thank Lee Bauknight for his fine work on the answer key and Chris Fosen, Eileen Hart, and Ray McManus for useful editing suggestions. Our sincere thanks goes to all the students whose papers, projects,

and smiling faces appear in these pages. It is an honor to publish their work. Finally, we thank all of the instructors who have used *The Scott. Foresman Handbook* over its many editions, most especially those reviewers whose comments contributed directly to this latest revision:

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