

Re: I need some help!

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- *From:* RaeMorrill <RaeMorrill@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 28 Apr 2006 13:57:21 GMT
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Comes down to the fact that each form of writing has a style guide: Novels, newspapers, scientific journals, etc. The style guide accepted for medical reports says it is okay. I've decided to drop the hyphen. I can arrange for my software to do it automatically w/o me thinking about it, but this is a great example of silly nitpicking that will cost some MT her job or some MTSO a good MT.

Phyllis Nilsson wrote:

I agree with you. The BOS isn't the final word on the English language. Follow-up and follow up are still correct so there is no need to use followup when it is questionable and the others aren't.

Liz wrote:

Gisele, while I respect your opinion as always, I must disagree with your stance on this one. Yes, English is an ever evolving language, but sorry... "followup" is the perfect example of the dumbing of America, akin to capitalization of all drugs, including generics. IOW, making it legitimate to put "follow" and "up" together as one word just excuses those dummies who don't know when it's correct to use a hyphen.

"Gisele" <Gisele.26y2e6@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:Gisele.26y2e6@xxxxxxxxxxxx>

I don't know where anyone got the idea that they had some guarantee that the rules of punctuation and grammar would never change in their lifetime. If that were true, we would still be speaking the language of Geoffrey Chaucer! Not every change is a dumbing down of the language or a signal of the decline of civilization, folks. If you don't like the BOS, find a different reference and become familiar with it. I don't know of any language reference that hasn't gone through

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several editions, though, so what are you going to do? You can keep up with the small changes that happen over the years, or you can ignore the whole issue for a decade and then just throw up your hands and declare that you refuse to learn anything new.

This is far afield of Ed's problem with moronic QA, of course, but it's just something I cannot understand. English is a living, organic thing. Styles in punctuation do change, new words are coined, and we learn them. Or we don't.

Gisele

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Gisele