



May 18, 2023

Prepositions, Purges, and Mr. ChatBotGPT Goes to Washington

Hello Ruth Ann,

As I said in yesterday's email, there's egg on my face. Here's that newsletter with the proper context for the writing tip.

Til next week,
Ruth Ann Monti

Writing Tips

Prepositions and their namesake phrases were the banes of my English composition class back in the day - even when the teacher was the amazing Lou D'Amelio. (Sorry, parents, he's retired now.)

Attitudes toward prepositions have changed since those exasperating days. It's OK to end a sentence with over, under, and any other preposition, according to Grammar Girl, who calls this outdated rule a [Top 10 Grammar Myth](#).



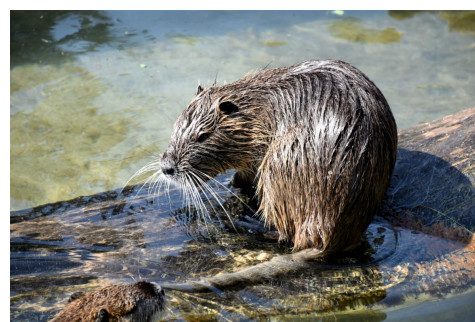
*Who remembers The Preposition Fox? :D
Agata/Pixabay*

There's a lot of gray space between adverbs and prepositions, as Grammar Girl notes. "Over" and "with" fall in both camps but put together, they form a phrasal verb.

And yes, it's OK to end a sentence this way. Over and out!

SEO/Content News

Tech Crunch reports Elon Musk has ordered a purge of accounts on his platform that have been inactive for "several years," resulting in a drop of followers among more active users.



Get off my platform! RitaE/Pixabay

This is actually more generous than the platform's official policy to close accounts that have been inactive for 30 days.

The move will also free up user names other people might want. Popular ones could be auctioned off, maybe to help pay for the new CEO Musk just hired.

ChatBot Boss Pleads for Regulations

In a live chat, um, testimony to a Senate subcommittee, Sam Friedman of OpenAI worried that if ChatBot-type technology goes wrong, it can go quite wrong," *The New York Times* reports.

Gary Marcus, a scientist, author, and critic of AI testified that "we are also facing a perfect storm of corporate irresponsibility, widespread deployment, lack of adequate regulation and inherent unreliability."

Sarah Myers West of the policy research group AI Now Institute at New York University suggested regulatory goals like limits on how it's used in police work and collecting biometric data.



ChatGPT's exec took a walk on the Senate side. BSheptock/Pixabay

Altman, she pointed out, didn't show any indication of slowing down the development of OpenAI's ChatGPT tool.

"It's such an irony seeing a posture about the concern of harms by people who are rapidly releasing into commercial use the system responsible for those very harms," West noted.



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