



INSIDE THE CLARION UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



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Inside The Clarion University Libraries

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Library Home

The Clarion University Libraries newsletter is published weekly when classes are in session. Through *INSIDE*, we share information about our services and resources with the campus community. *INSIDE* is best viewed with Microsoft Outlook. However, you can read a PDF version of *INSIDE* online through the [Libraries' homepage](#).

What Is *Opposing Viewpoints In Context*?



[*Opposing Viewpoints in Context*](#) is an online resource covering today's hottest social issues. It helps you to research, analyze, and organize a broad variety of data gathered when conducting research, completing a writing assignment, preparing for debates, or creating presentations.

Opposing Viewpoints in Context includes:

- Media-rich topic pages with topic overviews
- Pro/con viewpoint essays
- More than 300 primary source documents
- Biographies of social activists and reformers
- Court case overviews
- Periodical articles
- Statistical tables, charts, and graphs
- Images and a link to Google Image Search
- Podcasts including weekly presidential addresses and premier NPR programs
- A national and state curriculum standards search, correlated to the content that allows educators to quickly identify material by grade and discipline

This electronic information resource is available through the Libraries [Homepage](#). Under the **Research Resources** column, click on the **Databases A-Z** link, then scroll down the alphabetical list, or use the link to jump to the "O" (for *Opposing...*) section of databases.

If you have questions or need assistance, stop by the libraries or call:

- Carlson Library - 393-2490

Your link to all of the Libraries' resources

PILOT

Search the Libraries' online catalog

Databases A-Z

Search the Libraries' extensive collection of electronic journals and e-books

Contact Us

Dr. Terry Latour
Dean of Libraries

- Suhr Library - 676-6591
- Distance Education students may call toll-free - 866-272-5612
 - Press #5 for Library

Our Chat and other online services are available through the [Ask A Librarian](#) link on our Website.

EBSCOhost Listen

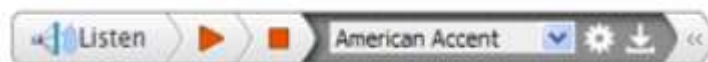


Do you learn by listening to podcasts, talking books, or other audio media?

[EBSCOhost](#), the provider of many of our electronic journals, offers a listening option for recent full-text journal articles that are formatted in HTML. You may select the language and accent, then listen to it immediately (sometimes

it takes a while to load) or download the file for later listening – maybe while walking or exercising.

When available, the *Listen* control buttons (below) are located in the center of the full-text HTML journal article, just above the beginning of the article.



If you have questions about the service or the download feature, check out the [Text-to-Speech Tutorial](#) or contact a reference librarian.

Library Tip: iPads At The Library



Carlson Library has ten (10) iPads that may be checked-out of the library and that are due an hour before closing the next day.

Suhr Library at Venango College in Oil City has five (5) iPads that may be checked-out on the same basis.

The iPad loan program is made possible by Student Technology Fees and the Center for Computing Services.

Cranial Candy: Bet You Didn't Know...



March 4th is the only day of the year that is a complete sentence given as a command: ***March Forth!***

According to ehow.com, the *March Forth holiday* was created by Deborah Shouse, a writer, speaker, and creativity coach, to invite us to march forth into our lives, take on new experiences, and celebrate our accomplishments.

Today, March 4th, 2014, is also Shrove Tuesday (the day before "Ash Wednesday"). A number of Catholic and Protestant countries traditionally call the day before Ash Wednesday "Fat Tuesday" or "[Mardi Gras](#)" and it refers to the common Christian tradition of eating special rich foods before the fasting season of Lent.

Computer Tip: Improve Your Writing Style With *Expresso*



Writing isn't just a matter of proper spelling and grammar. It is also important that written language is fluid, messages are presented clearly, and appropriate word choices are made.

Sadly, this is something spelling and grammar checkers rarely look out for. Is there a tool to help make better writing choices?

Meet [Expresso](http://www.expresso-app.org). (You *will* want to bookmark the address: www.expresso-app.org.)

Expresso is the creation of Mikhail Panko, a US-based neuroscientist, who was dissatisfied with his own written English.

How does it work? It's actually quite simple. Open Expresso in a modern web browser. Copy your text into your browser and click 'Analyze Text'. After a few seconds (depending on the length of the piece uploaded), Expresso completes its analysis and tells you how much you suck at writing.

Objectively defining the quality of a text is hard. After all: literature is art, and art is subjective. Or is it? Turns out there are a few hallmarks of bad writing.

Is your writing littered with the passive voice? This is where the subject is the receiver of a main action, and overuse results in weak-sounding or confusing language.

Are you a rare words junkie? When using colorful language, sentences become a bit more interesting. However, *overuse* of obscure words may result in text being difficult to comprehend, especially by non-native English speakers.

Espresso looks for these potential problems and more. The goal is to identify deficiencies in your language, and in this respect Espresso delivers, with other 30 metrics being gathered.

Sounds complicated, right? Wrong. Espresso couldn't be easier. Here's how you can utilize it to improve your written English.

First, open [Espresso](#) and copy in your body of text.

Then, press 'Analyze Text.'

Espresso scours the text and returns metrics.

Clicking a category highlights all instances of this category within your text.

[Espresso](#) is quite cool in that it offers suggestions for replacements of words. Hover over a word, and see a list of synonyms so you stop repeating words, a habit that breaks flow.

Espresso identifies a major weakness with most spellcheckers, and provides a compelling alternative. Give it a try!

Something To Think About:



*"People are illogical,
unreasonable,
and self-centered.
Love them anyway."
~ Kent M. Keith*