Which Controlled English Is Best Suited to You?

Comparison among Controlled Englishes

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What is Controlled English?

• Controlled English ≠ Plain English?
A lot of English Writing Style Guidelines
—Which Is Controlled English?

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Mixture of Targeted Purposes

• Communication—hodge-podge
  – in conversation for a native English society
    • Globish, Plain English
  – in conversation for the international societies
    • Globish
  – in writing for a native English society
    • A Plain English Handbook (SEC), Plain English
  – in writing for the international societies
    → International business documents
    → Controlled English
Is it similar to Globish?

• Communication
  – Come into effect when understood by the receiver
  – Necessity of Lingua franca
  – ELF (English as a Lingua Franca) British council

• Globish
  – FEP (Fast Early Progress), CEP (Clear End Point), ROE (Return On Effort)
  – Increasing the hit rate (understandable by people)
  – Target: Independent user (B1-B2) in CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)
  – Closed system: raising understandability by limiting the grammar and vocabulary → similar to CE
Globish

• Four basic rules
  – use short sentences,
  – use words in a simple way, as any advertiser or politician knows,
  – use only the most common English words, and
  – help communication with body language and visual additions

• 1500 words, expandable in four ways
  – different use of same word, (parts of speech) ← Controlled English: 1 word, 1 meaning
  – combinations of words,
  – short additions to words, and
  – phrasal verbs ← Technical Writing: Not for int’l business documents

Pareto principle
  • active vocabulary 3500~7500 × 20% = 1500 words (Globish the World Over)
Is it similar to Globish?

• It is similar to Globish
• “Never use a pound (£) word when a penny (1 d) one will do.” — Winston Churchill

but...

• There are apparent differences:
  – different use of same word, (parts of speech): equivocality for NNS
  – phrasal verbs: ambiguity for NNS
    • Technical writing rules out the use of PVs, e.g. “come out” has 18 meanings
    • The two above may not affect native English speakers because there should be certain contexts in communication

• It is targeted to the global audience; Globish is for the native English audience

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What is Controlled English?

• Controlled English ≜ Writing Style Guidelines??
  – Chicago Manual of Style
  – APA Style
  – MLA Style Manual

→ How to appropriately produce the “styles” for documents
→ Not for comprehensibility: easy-to-understand
→ How to improve comprehensibility
→ Controlled English
Representative Controlled Englishes

- ASD-STE100 Simplified English, Issue 7
  - AECMA Simplified English (SE)
  - Caterpillar Technical English (CTE)
  - Attempto Controlled English
  - etc.

- The Global English Style Guide (SAS)

- Rule-Based Writing—English for Non-Native Writers (tekom)  These are ...
Similar CLs

Wiener Schnitzel

Milanese Cutlet

American cutlet burger

https://youtu.be/6YwZMytdRLQ
https://www.webfoodculture.com/second/the-radetzky-cutlets/

Typical Japanese cuisine
Comparison between Three

• ASD-STE100 Simplified English, Issue 7
  – Approved words as the approved POS and meaning only
  – Technical names/verbs in your business field
  – “-ing” form is available only when it is used as a modifier in a technical name
  – Present perfect/past perfect is not available
  – Creating paragraphs using parallelism, keywords, transitions, and order of sentences (known to unknown)
  – Procedural writing and descriptive writing
  – Word count rules
Comparison between Three

• The Global English Style Guide (GESG)
  – Writing sentences, not referring to paragraphs
  – Useful not only for human t7n but also for MT
  – Each rule has priority indices for HT/MT/NN
  – Working closely with CAT: Translation Memory and Authoring tools such as acrolinx
  – Syntactic cues for int’l audience
  – Not strict, tolerant both for native and int’l audiences
  – Detailed punctuation rules

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Comparison between Three

• Rule-Based Writing (RBW)
  – Writing sentences, not referring to paragraphs
  – Originally produced for German writers/audience:
    English grammar book for German writers (Now revising)
  – Instruction for use
  – For bookmaking 1 (titles, indexes, CRs, glossaries)
  – For bookmaking 2 (style rules: like CMOS)
  – Useful for writers (English writing) and l10n
  – American English spelling
  – Affected by The Global English Style Guide???
• Text rules
  – Headings
  – Index Entries
  – Cross References
  – Glossaries

• Sentence rules
  – Avoid Ambiguous Constructions
  – Avoiding Incomplete Constructions
  – Avoiding Complex Constructions
  – Rules for Word Order and Sequence of Sentence Elements
  – Style Rules
  – Punctuation Rules
  – Tense Rules

• Word rules
  – Language Variant and Style
  – Numbers and Units
  – Hyphens in Adjective Compounds
  – Verb Forms
  – Upper Case and Lower Case
  – Genitive Form
  – Problematic Cases in English
  – Prepositions
  – Dealing with Abbreviations
Summary

• ASD-STE100
  – Global English with simple grammar and vocabulary
  – Procedural writing and descriptive writing (paragraph)

• The Global English Style Guide
  – Global English (Introducing Syntactic cues)
  – Working closely with CAT: for l10n

• Rule-Based Writing
  – Global English with a compact CMOS
  – Guideline for bookmaking (Instruction for use)
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